KOREA

Kathmandu, Nepal

Alternative for Peace

KOREA:
ALTERNATIVE FOR PEACE

Javed Ansari

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Foreword

A renowned social scientist said there isn't any absolute thing in the world. He is right to a certain extent because dialectical materialism maintains that all things change and develop without letup.

I do not want to negate his assertion. But, this article of mine tells of something absolute as a precious truth. Of course, my readers may have a little different views, but it is evident that truth is the reality reflected in an impartial vision.

I have so far taken several opportunities to visit the DPRK. Staying there, I learned the real state of affairs of Korea that is spoken ill of by western news media and saw how many people have so far been deceived by their whopping lies. Western news media seem to close their eyes or plug their ears, or play the role of a waiting maid to repeat somebody's voice. If not, how can they tell lies while witnessing a stern reality? Even witnessing an inessential phenomenon, nobody can conceal the truth in it. Experiencing the reality of Korea, I was deeply interested in many things of that country ranging from its history and geography to the character and national customs of the Korean people and their long-cherished desire. Writing this

book, I earnestly wanted to tell the truth to many people who are deceived by western news media which are crying about Korea with little knowledge of it.

Do the Korean people writhe in the agony of hunger, fear grief and despair?

Do they really wander about in darkness as western news media advertise?

Let them say what they want.

But here is an objective witness of the reality telling of the truth.

In 2008 the Korean people commemorated the 60th national day, the 63rd anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 71st anniversary of the army.

Having emerged on the international arena in the 40s of the 20th century as a new state, the DPRK has attracted the attention of the world public for over 60 years.

I visited Korea for the 6th time in September 2008.

I want to describe my impressions objectively without any prejudice.

Anyhow, I'd like to say that April 2012 marks the centenary of President **Kim Il Sung**.

In April 1982 I saw him when he celebrated his 70th birthday.

Still vivid before my eyes his image smiling as brightly as the sun.

I believe that greeting his centenary, you, my readers

will know about him better and extend sincere thanks to him, a holy man and sun of humankind for his historic contributions.

1. Historical review

First of all, I'd like to view the geopolitical situation of the independent national state of Korea.

A small peninsula state in northeast Asia, Korea is situated between 43 degrees- 36 degrees north latitude and 124 degrees-131 degrees east longitude.

On the map its territory looks like a sitting rabbit looking to the north.

Its area is 222,200 square kilometers (Bisected into the north and the south in September 1945) and population is about 70 million (23,890,000 in north Korea, 37,000,000 in south Korea and 10 million overseas as of 2006).

Some 40 kilometers north east of the heart of Pyongyang there is a mammoth tomb.

It is the mausoleum of king Tangun, the father of ancient Korea (Over 5,020 years ago).

The process of emergence of state in Korea since then proves that the history of development of this country is not shorter than that of the European and other countries, ancient Greece and Egypt in particular.

Ancient Korea occupied a vast area.

It is proved by the frontiers of the dynasty of Koguryo which succeeded to ancient Korea.

A correct map of it is not available, but old materials and a map of the old dynasty of Koguryo preserved in the

British Museum show that Koguryo covered an extensive area from northeast China of today to south east Russia. It was ascertained by historical materials in China and Korea too.

Korea has passed a long way of development in one territory with one language as one nation since its foundation by King Tangun.

But this country has not always achieved progress and prosperity alone.

The Koguryo dynasty (BC 277-668), the successor to ancient Korea and the next successor, the dynasty of Palhae had powerful national strength and developed culture.

But from the late 14th century there were repeated division and reunion, and frustration and progress, inflicting all sorts of sufferings on this country till the early 20th century.

There might be different reasons of it.

But Koreans ascribe it to the incompetence of the feudal ruling quarters.

Having usurped power by coup in July 1392, the top echelon of the feudal state strengthened the hereditary system from the beginning of the 15 century and enforced the national isolation policy apart from civilization.

National power and military force admitted of no argument.

How to view military affairs is an important issue

relating to the destiny of a country and nation.

According to data, the peaceful period between B.C. 1496 and A.D.I861 on this planet lasted only for 227 years and the rest 3,130 years passed in wars.

Therefore, from olden times military affairs were regarded as the first policy of the state and negligence of military affairs was said to cause national ruin.

The theory, however, was brought into political practice.

In the past some countries attached importance to national defence for a time only to defend the country from foreign aggressors.

The policy of attaching priority to national defence was not pursued consistently in those countries.

From the lesson of history Koreans too, paid attention to strengthening military force.

A man named Ri Ui suggested training 100,000 warriors.

In September 1582 Ri Ui in the Ri dynasty urged the Royal Court to train 100,000 warriors to cope with possible foreign invasion in 10 years.

The king, however, ignored his proposal, saying the training of warriors is unreasonable in peace time.

Just 10 years later, in 1592 Japan invaded Korea.

The whole country was put into the crucible of war and the king could not but seek safety in flight.

As a result, the official discipline of the country was

relaxed and national power was exhausted to an extreme pitch.

As a result, Korea seemed to be subject to the Myong dynasty of China, its neighbor and, sometimes, it was regarded as a tributary to great powers.

In history Korea has never invaded any neighboring country to expand its territory.

It can be explained by different reasons, but studying Korea, I was interested in the fact that from olden times Koreans were honest and upright and were possessed of noble qualities of regarding other's trouble as their own.

Such a country fell a victim to foreign aggression. In 1816 the British "Alcestis" and "Lyre" invaded the west coast of Korea.

They were followed by American and French ships frequently.

In August 1866 the American pirate ship "General Sherman" intruded into the Taedong River flowing through Pyongyang and demanded the Korean feudal government open trade with the United States. The Pyongyang governor rejected it.

But the aggressors arrogantly challenged him and perpetrated espionage, murder and robbery and even kidnapped the military officer of the Pyongyang governor's office.

Then they demanded 1,000 sok (A sok is equivalent to

4.9 bushels) of rice and lots of gold, silver, ginseng and other goods in return for him.

It was the first official scheme of the United States for invasion.

Afterwards, in 1868 the United States dispatched aggression ships "Shenandoah" and "China", only to be repulsed.

In 1871 another aggression ship intruded into Korea, but was also repulsed.

In August 1866, seven French warships with 2,500 troops led by Rose, commander of the French far eastern fleet, attacked Korea.

Japan had also watched for a chance to invade Korea for a long time.

At that time the national power of Korea was deteriorated due to the policy of the incompetent feudal rulers. Availing itself of it, Japan dispatched an army 170,000 strong and a navy 30,000-40,000 strong to Korea for 7 years between April 1592 and 1598.

While perpetrating plunder, the aggressors were repulsed by the Korean volunteer army and patriotic soldiers.

Instead of learning a good lesson from it, the Japanese aggressors invented "Unyang incident" in August 1875.

Under the pretext of it they sent a fleet composed of seven ships in January next year and threatened the Korean

feudal government, demanding negotiations.

Not prepared to repulse the Japanese aggressors, the Korean feudal government could not but agree to conclude an unequal treaty.

The treaty called "Korea-Japan treaty of amity" with 12 articles was signed on Kanghwa Island in February 1876.

The treaty stipulated that ports in Korea should be opened for "free trade" of Japanese merchants, the Japanese in Korea should be extraterritorial beings, the Japanese should be provided with the rights to survey the coasts of Korea and map them, Japanese money should be circulated and Japanese goods should be exempted from customs duties.

The treaty included articles only for the Japanese interests. What an unequal treaty it was!

Here I'd like to enumerate some materials of the Japanese history of invasion of Korea in modern times.

- On October 8, 1895 Japan killed queen Min with an aim to remove the pro-Russian forces and establish Japanese influence in Korea.

Immediately after winning the Sino-Japanese war, Japan attempted to avail itself of the opportunity to remove the forces of China.

- On August 22, 1904 the "Korea-Japan agreement" was signed. Under the agreement Korea was to employ the Japanese recommended by the Japanese government as

financial and diplomatic advisors.

The Korean government could conclude any treaty with a foreign country only after discussing with Japan in advance.

- On July 29, 1905 an agreement was signed in Japan by Japanese Prime Minister Gatsura Daro and US secretary of the army Taft.

Under the Gatsura-Taft agreement the United States officially recognized the Japanese colonial rule of Korea and Japan recognized the United States' colonial rule of the Philippines.

According to the agreement, Japan recognized that the Philippines should be placed under the rule of such a powerful and friendly country as the United States, Japan has not any plan to invade the Philippines and the United States recognized Japan's rights to suzerainty on Korea to such an extent as to disallow Korea to conclude any agreement with any other country without Japan's approval.

- On October 27, 1905 "a decision of the cabinet council on the establishment of the rights to protection of Korea" was adopted.

The decision specified that a royal envoy would be dispatched to the signing ceremony of the "protection treaty", the commander of the Japanese army in Korea would participate in it, Japanese army would enter Seoul and in case the Korean government refuses, Japan would

unilaterally announce as the last measure that Japan established its rights to protection of Korea.

- On November 17, 1905 Japan forced the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" or the Korea-Japan consultation treaty, thereby robbing Korea of diplomatic rights and introducing the policy by a resident-general.

(It was not a lawful treaty, but a fabricated paper not signed by the Korean emperor as was proved by historical materials in the 1990s).

- On July 24, 1907 the "Jongmi Seven-Point Treaty" was concluded to deprive Korea of its rights to domestic administration.

According to the treaty, legislation, administrative resolution, appointment and dismissal of state officials, and other domestic issues were to be dealt with only under the approval of the Japanese resident- general.

- On August 1, 1907 the Japanese imperialists forcibly dissolved the Korean national army in Seoul.

- On August 29, 1910 they announced the "Korea-Japan annexation treaty" fabricated on 22.

By fabricating the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" and "Jongmi Seven-Point Treaty", the Japanese imperialists seized the diplomatic, military and administrative rights of Korea and established the colonial rule of Korea.

With the false documents they annexed the whole territory of Korea to the Japanese territory and decided to

make the Korean people Japanese.

It was, in fact, designed to erase the name of Korea on the map of the world and remove the Korean nation. The then Japanese deputy foreign minister unhesitatingly clamored that Japan wanted to clarify its intention to remove Korea completely and make it part of the empire.

As a result, the Japanese government general policy was introduced like a yoke on a slave on October 1, 1910.

With five thousand year long history, the Korean people were deprived of sovereignty and reduced to a ruined nation because they had not a strong army.

After the "Meiji Restoration" Japan was hell bent on increasing armed forces to occupy and dominate Korea.

In 1905 the Japanese imperialists was possessed of 12 latest warships of over 6,000 ton class and a 200,000 strong regular army equipped with modern arms.

With the huge armed forces as background, the Japanese imperialists brought into Seoul their main force from the Russo-Japanese War in an attempt to force the Ri dynasty government to sign a treaty ruinous to the nation.

At that time Japan introduced 30,000 infantrymen, 800 cavalrymen and 5,000 artillerymen. But the Korean army had only 5,000 troops of 2 regiments in Seoul and about 2,000 troops of 8 battalions in local areas, some 7,000 in all.

Their arms and equipment were also miserable with

spears, bows and matchlocks.

They had some rifles and ammunitions, but almost all of them were deprived by the Japanese army during the Sino-Japanese war, and the others were managed by the Japanese army.

200,000 troops: 7,000 troops and artillery: matchlock- that was the comparison of the armed forces of Japan and Korea in 1905 when the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" was invented.

Not having a strong army to defend their country, the Korean nation could not but be reduced to miserable colonial slave.

After occupying Korea the Japanese imperialists killed 1 million innocent patriots and other people in cold blood.

They also took 8,400,000 people to forced labor sites and drafted 200,000 Korean women as "comfort women" for the Japanese army and used them as sexual slaves.

Through their colonial slavery the Korean people experienced that those who have not their own army can not but undergo slavish life and ruin in the long run.

Korea was a small country both in area and population. Besides, its national power was exhausted to an extreme pitch.

Eventually, great powers struggled fiercely to seize the Korean territory.

On the other hand, the Ching dynasty also wanted to

maintain its position as a big nation in Korea.

The Ching dynasty which existed between 1644 and 1911 as the last feudal state of China resorted to all kinds of means for the unification of the land and the expansion of its sphere of influence.

It took a big power chauvinistic attitude towards Korea, its neighbor and attempted to force its intention on Korea and thus take the position of a suzerain state.

The authorities of the Ching dynasty interfered in the internal affairs of Korea and even gave instructions to Korea on the appointment of officials and legislation.

Such being the situation, China and Japan started a war for their interests in July 1894 in Korea, a sovereign state.

It was really ridiculous that two countries fought a war in another country.

The war lasted for more than 3 years and innocent bystander Korea suffered a side blow in the fight.

Czarist Russia was enforcing a strategic foreign policy to seize the Korean peninsula situated in a geopolitically important place and thus contain Japan and China which were growing stronger.

On October 8 1895 the Japanese robbers murdered Queen Min (The wife of Kozong, the 26 king of the Ri dynasty) in broad daylight.

On February 11, 1896 Czarist Russia transferred King Kozong and his son to the Russian legation allegedly for

their safety and then invented a pro-Russian government there.

∗ *The incident of murder of Queen Min ("Ulmi incident")*

In August 1895 the Japanese aggressors attacked the Korean royal palace and killed queen Min, the wife of Kozong, the 26' king of the Ri dynasty.

The year was called Ulmi in an eastern manner, hence Ulmi incident.

After the Sino-Japanese war capitalist powers fought very fiercely to seize their sphere of influence in Korea.

The Japanese imperialists wanted to check the pro-Russian tendency of the flunkeys ruling quarters of the feudal Korean government including queen Min and establish their monopolistic rule and plotted to murder queen Min and remove the pro-Russian forces.

They mobilized the Japanese garrison, the 18^{f} battalion of the reserve infantry, the police force of the Japanese foreign ministry and private Japanese gangsters, hundreds of troops in all, from the night of August 19 to the next day morning and attacked the Korean royal palace unexpectedly, killing Korean ministers and demanded the king show the queen and detained him. The Japanese villains intruded into the bedroom of the queen and mangled the queen to death.

They placed her corpse on a pile of firewood and burnt

her dead body to ashes.

The murder of queen Min was a flagrant violation of the feudal state sovereignty of the Ri dynasty represented by the then royal authority.

It was the most brutal murder unprecedented in human history.

The murder of queen Min enraged the Korean king at the Japanese hooligans and terrified him.

The Korean king wanted to rely upon any other country except Japan.

Having rapidly got a hint of it, czarist Russia decided to take the opportunity to establish a pro-Russian government.

Russia conspired with the pro-Russian figures in the feudal government and brought even the Russian Marine Corps stationed in Inchon port to cause the unheard-of incident.

Look! What a disgraceful history it is for a country!

That was not all.

On September 5, 1905 right after the Russo-Japanese war czarist Russia held a consultation with Japan and signed the "Ports-mouth peace treaty" which specified that Japan has political, military and economic superiority in Korea and if necessary, also has the rights to guide, protect and manage Korea.

Then, what inflicted such a tragedy upon a national

state which was proud of a 5,000 year long history and superior national language and unrivalled wisdom and courage?

2. Choice for destiny

In many families, schools and institutions of Korea there can be found the letters reading "Aim High". The letters are easily understood to all Koreans, even to little children, but hardly to foreigners. Usually, visitors to Pyongyang are guided to Mangyongdae.

The place is so beautiful as is said to present all kinds of natural beauty.

There stands a small straw-roofed house.

Such a simple cottage is rare to be seen today, but was common at the beginning of the 20th century.

It is the time-honored old home of Great President **Kim Il Sung**.

He was born in it on April 15, 1912 and spent his childhood there.

What is more noteworthy is the fact that President **Kim Il Sung**'s great-grandfather, grandfather and parents lived in the house from the 1860s.

Entering the small courtyard of the historic home, one can see the letters "Aim High" on the wall of a small room.

The letters were also born in Mangyngdae and the idea of "Aim High" was produced by Kim Hyong Jik, the father of President **Kim Il Sung**.

While studying the history of Korea's ruin and seeking a new way of independence, he set forth the idea of "Aim

High".

But the idea was not a worldly slogan of life for personal glory or successful career.

It implies a revolutionary view of life in which genuine happiness is sought in the struggle for the country and nation and an unbreakable revolutionary spirit to liberate the country at any cost even by fighting through generations.

It was also a golden maxim of Kim Hyong Jik.

He always cherished the idea in his heart till he passed away at 30 in 1926.

∗ Mangyongdae

Mangyongdae is a historic place situated in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK.

It presents all kinds of beautiful scenes of nature, hence the name.

*Here is the old home of President **Kim Il Sung** who was born on April 15 1912.*

His father Kim Hyong Jik was also born in 11ie house on July 10, 1894 and fostered a revolutionary will there.

The President's mother Kang Pan Sok looked after a large family as daughter-in-law.

*She also helped her husband Kim Hyong Jik in his revolutionary activities and brought up young President **Kim Il Sung** and other children into revolutionaries.*

The old home preserves household utensils and farm

implements used by the family as they were.

Mangyongdae is visited by many people of different social strata and servicemen of Korea and foreigners almost every day.

From the days right after liberation in 1945 to 2008 the number of visitors amounted to 122,250,000, among them people in Korea 120,000,000, foreigners 2,075,400 and overseas and south Koreans 150,000.

It is proved by the following fact.

When Korea was faced with ruin due to the occupation by the Japanese imperialists, Kim Hyong Jik passed away on June 5, 1926 under the roof of a small hut in a foreign land hundreds of miles away from his home, grieving over his lost country.

He said to his wife Kang Pan Sok:

"When we were leaving our home, we promised to achieve our country's independence and return together, did we not? But I am afraid I cannot return.

When our country wins independence, you return home with Song Ju (President **Kim Il Sung**'s childhood name).

I do not want to depart without attaining my aim.

I entrust Song Ju to you.

I wanted to give him education up to secondary school, but I'm afraid that is impossible.

If you can, please send him to secondary school at least,

even if you must live on gruel to do so.

Then, as for the younger boys, everything will depend on Song Ju."

Then he handed over to her the two pistols he had always carried with him, saying:

"If the pistols are discovered after I died, there would be a trouble. So, you should bury them and give them to Song Ju when he has grown up and starts on the road of struggle."

Then Kim Hyong Jik gave his three sons his last injunction.

"I am departing without attaining my aim.

But I believe in you.

You must always remember that you belong to the country and nation.

You must win back your country at all costs even though your bones are broken and your bodies are torn to shreds...."

President **Kim Il Sung** wailed loudly.

The death of his father let loose his pent-up grief for his lost country.

Kim Hyong Jik passed away after enduring every manner of hardship and suffering for the sake of his country.

Even when he was mortally ill because of repeated torture and severe frostbite, he did not give in, but went to

meet the people and his comrades.

When he was exhausted, he walked with a cane, and when he was hungry, he allayed his hunger by eating snow.

He never looked back or wavered.

He always walked straight forward.

Kim Hyong Jik did not take sides with any faction or seek power, but dedicated his whole life without hesitation to the cause of national liberation and the working people's well-being.

He was free from worldly desires and self-interest. When he had money, he suppressed his desire to buy sweets for his children and saved it up and bought an organ to contribute it to a school.

He placed his fellow countrymen above himself, and his motherland above his family.

He moved forward without faltering in the teeth of the cold wind.

He lived as a man of integrity and an upright revolutionary.

President **Kim Il Sung** said he had never once heard his father talking about household affairs.

President **Kim Il Sung** inherited a great deal from his father in ideological and spiritual wealth, but nothing in the form of property and money.

The thought of "Aim High", the idea of being prepared for three contingencies, the idea of gaining comrades, and two

pistols-that was all President **Kim Il Sung** received from his father.

Evidently, the heritage was such that presupposed great hardship and sacrifice from him.

Nevertheless, there could be no better heritage for him.

Dwelling upon the thought of 'Aim High", Kim Hyong Jik said:

"If I fall in battle, my son will continue the fight; if my son can not accomplish the cause, my grandson must fight until we win our nation's independence."

He also remarked: "Wherever he may go, a revolutionary must always be prepared for three contingencies.

He must be prepared for death from hunger, death from beating and death from the cold; yet he must stick to the high aim he set himself at the outset."

The remark is also another valuable legacy left to President **Kim Il Sung** by his father.

Like this, already in his teens President **Kim Il Sung** took over the main qualities of a revolutionary from his father and was convinced of the major means of victorious revolution, the motive force of revolution and its methods.

He valued the firm faith of a revolutionary, mass foundation and armed struggle.

At that time President **Kim Il Sung** thought, first of all, of the unusual legacies left by his father, the thought of "Aim High", preparations for three contingencies, gain of

comrades and two pistols. In an inconsolable and somber grief he was at a loss what to do, but he was encouraged by the legacies and started to seek the path he must follow.

President **Kim Il Sung** in his teens was faced with rigorous ways of choice.

One was a way of successful career for his sickly mother and younger brothers and the other was a sacred way to save the country and nation in support of his father's will.

President **Kim Il Sung** could not think any more.

He resolutely chose the way for the country and nation.

He decided to go to a military school through the good offices of independence champions, his father's friends. Military school was a proper place to President **Kim Il Sung** who had pledged to devote his whole life to the cause of national liberation.

President **Kim Il Sung**'s view at that time was that he could defeat the Japanese imperialists only through a military showdown and that he could stand in the front rank of the independence movement only when he had a military knowledge.

There opened a way for him to realize the chosen hope and dream. Long afterwards, a foreign political figure asked the President like this:

"Mr. President, how did it happen that you, a communist, went to a military school run by nationalists?"

Probably, the foreigner could not understand why the President, a communist, entered Hwasong Uisuk School, a military school set up by nationalists.

It was when President **Kim Il Sung** had not yet joined the communist movement that he entered Hwasong Uisuk School.

His world outlook was not at a sufficiently mature stage to regard Marxism-Leninism completely as his doctrine. All he had learned about communism till that time was what he had read in Fusung in such pamphlets as "The fundamentals of socialism" and the "Biography of Lenin".

He was also attached to a socialist society through the rumors he heard about the development of the newly born Soviet Union where the idea of socialism had been realized. Then what made President **Kim Il Sung** part from nationalism and chose a new road?

At that time Hwasong Uisuk School had more nationalists than communists and the teachers at the schools he attended in various places advocated nationalist ideas more than communist ones.

The new generation like President **Kim Il Sung** were surrounded by nationalism which, though destined to give way to a new trend of thought, had more than half a century of history, and its influence could not be ignored.

The fact that there were many sturdy young people at Hwasong Uisuk School and that it was giving free political

and military education made him resolve to attend the school.

Better educational conditions than those at the school were inconceivable for him who wanted to go to a higher school although he was in no position to pay any school fees and harbored the ambition to start on the road of national restoration in accordance with the will of his departed father.

But his expectation broke down.

The school had been set up by his father's friends and was mainly run by those who had known him, but President **Kim Il Sung** found there the remnants of outmoded ideas and methods handed down by the preceding generation.

Although the bourgeois nationalist movement had a history of several decades, the education at the school did not cover a theory to integrate, critically analyze and generalize it.

The bourgeois nationalists led the nationalist movement for decades, but they prepared no proper treaties or textbook which might serve as a guide to the movement and provide lessons.

The leaders of the Independence Army and patriotic figures who visited the school only spoke vaguely about winning independence as they banged the lectern. They said nothing about methods of aligning revolutionary forces, of mobilizing the masses and of achieving the unity and

cohesion of the independence movement, or about proper tactics and strategy of the armed struggle. In a word, Hwasong Uisuk School taught only nationalist ideas and outmoded military training reminiscent of that of old Korea.

The teachers, imbued with nationalist ideas, talked a great deal about opposing Japan and about national independence, but the struggle methods they advanced were outmoded.

∗ *Hwasong Uisuk School and Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU)*

Hwasong Uisuk School was a two year military and political school belonging to Jonguibu, a Korean nationalist group. It was set up by Korean nationalists in Hwajon county, Jilin province, China, at the beginning of 1925 with an aim to train cadres of the Independence Army.

President ***Kim Il Sung*** *was admitted to the school in June 1926 with a view that Japanese imperialism should be defeated by military showdown and, for the purpose, he should know military affairs.*

On October 17, 1926 he formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU), a genuine vanguard organization to lead the Korean revolution.

It was a vanguard organization to lead the revolutionary cause of Juche to victory and a genuine

revolutionary organization, the first of its kind in Korea.

The immediate task of the DIU was to defeat Japanese imperialism and achieve the independence of Korea and its final objective was to oppose all kinds of imperialism and build a socialist society.

The formation of "DIU" opened the outset of the Songun revolution advancing under the banner of the Juche idea and Songun idea and the origin of a revolutionary party organization.

The school authorities often invited men from the Independence Army who had battle experience to the school and asked them to speak about their distinguished military service.

In their stories they advocated the method of individual attack performed by some patriotic figures of Korea. The arms of the Independence Army were backward.

There were some modern rifles, but almost all soldiers were using swords or spears or firelocks.

The students complained "The school is an office training school for the Independence Army in name.

But how can we drive out the Japanese as long as we drill only with wooden rifles and have no cartridge for target practice?"

At that time the military power of Japan was strengthened incomparably as against 10 years ago.

So, President **Kim Il Sung** wondered whether the students could defeat the troops of an imperialist country which produced tanks, artillery pieces, warships and other modern weapons as well as heavy equipment on assembly line.

What disappointed President **Kim Il Sung** most was the ideological backwardness of the school.

The school authorities followed only the road of nationalism and guarded against other ideological trends, so the students naturally followed that course.

Some students at the school still believed in dynastic rule or harbored illusions about US-style democracy.

President **Kim Il Sung** could not repress discontent with their attitude.

The political lecture at the school did not deal with Korea's independence and popular masses.

One day President **Kim Il Sung** asked a student what type of society should be built in Korea after she won independence.

The student replied without hesitation that Korea should take the capitalist road. He said: "Our nation lost its country to the Japanese because our feudal rulers idled their time away reciting poems while other countries advanced along the road of capitalism.

We should build a capitalist society and thus avoid a repeat of the past."

Some other students held that the feudal dynasty should be restored. No student asserted that a democratic society should be built or that a society whose masters were the working people should be established.

At that time the national liberation movement was switching over from the nationalist movement to the communist movement, but they did not seem to take into account the prevailing trend.

Some students sat with folded arms and said that what the country to be built should be discussed after it became independent, and some others held that a controversy over capitalism or the restoration of the dynasty was pointless before independence.

Listening to them, President **Kim Il Sung** deeply felt that the nationalist education provided at Hwasong Uisuk School lagged behind the times.

Unable to endure any more, President **Kim Il Sung** stood up and said: "Our country cannot carry out a bourgeois revolution like the European countries, nor should we restore the old feudal ruling machinery.

Capitalist and feudal societies are ones where people with money lead a luxurious life by exploiting the working people.

After Korea became independent we should not build such an unfair society.

It is wrong to consider only the development of a

technological civilization without taking the malady of capitalism into account. It would be absurd to restore the feudal dynasty.

Who can support the dynastic rule which sold the country to foreign forces?

What have the kings done?

They bled the people white and beheaded and banished loyal subjects who spoke the truth.

What more did they do?

After making Korea independent we should build a society free from exploitation and oppression, a society where the workers, peasants and other working people lead a bountiful life in their homeland."

Many students expressed their sympathy with President **Kim Il Sung**'s argument.

Who can oppose a proposal to build a rich and powerful country which is free from exploitation and oppression and in which everybody is equal?

The limitations of Hwasong Uisuk School were the epitome of the limitation of the nationalist movement itself.

President **Kim Il Sung** could see the whole picture of the nationalist movement through Hwasong Uisuk School. In that period troops of the Independence Army became powerless and were engaged only in a struggle for influence. They rarely launched military actions as they had done in the homeland and in the areas along the Amnok

River in the first half of the 1920s and, lying low in the areas under their control, engaged only in collecting war funds.

On the other hand, people from the Shanghai provisional government which professed to be the "national government representing the Korean nation" were divided into factions called the "self-government group", the "independence group" and the like and became engaged in a fierce struggle for power.

The leading figures of the provisional government continued to present the mean "petition" to the extent of impairing the nation's dignity.

Instead of drawing a due lesson from the fact that at the Paris Peace Conference the "petition for independence of Korea" had not even been placed on the agenda of the conference due to the wicked obstructive maneuvers of the delegates from the United States and other entente powers.

When the "US Congressmen's Eastern Inspection Mission" went to Seoul via Shanghai, they even urged the pro-US flunkeys to present a gift of Ginseng, silverware and other valuable goods to the US congressmen.

Pleased at the situation, the Japanese imperialists in the name of the "Civil Government" preached that if the Korean people wanted national independence, they should cooperate politically with Japanese rule instead of opposing it, strive to acquire the right to self-government under the

Japanese colonial rule, develop their culture and the economy and improve their nation.

Their decision was accepted by the nationalist leaders from the propertied class. They advocated the "development" of education and industry, the "self-cultivation" of individuals, "class cooperation", "unity" and "national autonomy" under the cover of "national reform" and the "cultivation of strength".

So the wind of reform swept Hwasong Uisuk School too.

It is self-evident that President **Kim Il Sung**, a hot-blooded young man of enthusiasm and justice was not pleased with the atmosphere.

Previously, President **Kim Il Sung** had confined himself to grasping the content of the books he read, but after going to Hwasong Uisuk School he came to consider the principles of revolution contained in the classics in connection with the situation in Korea.

He wanted to know many things related to the Korean revolution.

How to throw Japanese imperialism and win back the country?

Who is the enemy and who is an ally in the struggle for national liberation?

What course to take to build socialism and communism after winning national independence?

President **Kim Il Sung** wished to find answers to all these questions. He broke down his expectation for Hwasong Uisuk.

Why?

It was because he found the truth that by relying on foreign forces, empty talk, scramble for hegemony, terrorism and "self-cultivation" he could not embody the idea of "Aim High" and the only way was to cultivate the strength of the nation itself and fire should be controlled by fire.

President **Kim Il Sung** once again stood at the crossroads of choice.

What I should do? Should I return home as head of the household, taking over the surgery from my uncle? Or should I go to a city, Shenyang or Harbin, or Jilin- and go to a higher school?

After these complicated thoughts President **Kim Il Sung** decided to leave Hwasong Uisuk School and go to Jilin to attend a secondary school.

He chose Jilin as his next stop after Huadien because this city was an important political center of Manchuria where many anti-Japanese fighters for independence and Korean communists gathered.

As said above, while staying in Hwasong Uisuk School for half a year, he formed the Down-with-Imperialism Union with a program to fight against the Japanese imperialists immediately and to

build socialism and communism in the future.

He had a far-reaching plan to expand and develop the organization.

Forming the organization on October 17, 1926 with the young people of a new generation unaffected by any faction, he firmly resolved to stage an organized armed struggle against Japanese imperialism. He eagerly wanted to break out of the narrow enclosure of Huadien and step into a broad area, conducting the communist movement which had taken its first step with the formation of the DIU on a full scale at a higher stage.

Afterwards, President Kim 11 Sung said: "Going to Jilin after attending Hwasong Uisuk School for six months was the first great and courageous decision of my life."

Eventually, a new beacon flared up and a new arena of activity was unfolded before President **Kim Il Sung**.

Through the youth movement and organized struggle he trained young hardcore elements and, at the same time, acquired experiences of struggle, seeking a new way of the Korean revolution.

In that period too, in the arena of the national liberation struggle of Korea there appeared different isms and doctrines representing the stands and interests of different parties and groups that would lead the masses this way or that.

None of these theories was free from time and class

limitations.

The Chinese people greeted the 1930s in the flames of the second civil war.

The revolutionary tide raging furiously in China and many other Asian countries and the active struggle of the people in the homeland greatly excited and inspired the young communists led by President **Kim Il Sung**.

But their assertions were different.

Some people thought that it was possible to win back independence only through the military action of large troops.

Some other people maintained that the best way to drive out the Japanese was to employ terrorist tactics and yet some others said that their strategy suited to the actual situation in Korea was to preserve some well-trained troops and achieve independence in cooperation with the Soviet Union, China, the United States and the like once they were at war with Japan.

President **Kim Il Sung** judged that those theories had all time and class limitations.

The problem was to reflect in lines and practice the desire of the Korean people to drive out the Japanese and live in a free and democratic new society. President **Kim Il Sung**, a hot-blooded young man, thought of many things of the problem of armed struggle.

∗*Kalun Meeting*

It is a historic meeting held by President ***Kim Il Sung*** *together with young communists of Korea. In the course of a long thought and research he found the correct road to liberate Korea from the colonial yoke of the Japanese imperialists and at the meeting, clarified the true path of the Korean revolution.*

At the meeting held between June 30 and July 3, 1930 he delivered a historic speech titled "The path of the Korean revolution ".

In the report he elucidated the character of the Korean revolution and its task, and put forward the task for founding a party and the line of armed struggle.

From this President **Kim Il Sung** put it forward as the basic line of the anti-Japanese national liberation struggle and as the foremost task for the Korean communists to wage a comprehensive anti-Japanese war.

It took a long time to decide upon the armed struggle and to fix it as a line.

Before it was adopted as a line at Kalun, the young communists of Korea were virtually empty handed. President **Kim Il Sung** proposed that if an armed struggle was to be launched, the young communists should found a new type of army.

At that time some people were of a different opinion

and said; "Since the Independence Army is already in existence, it will suffice to join it and fight. Is there any necessity to found a separate army?

We fear that the anti-Japanese military forces will be divided."

President **Kim Il Sung** thought that since the Independence Army had become Rightist and reactionary, it was irrational and impossible to renovate it from within and take military action. He was convinced that an armed struggle led by communists alone could be a thorough anti-Japanese war of resistance and revolutionary.

It was because communists alone could rally in their armed ranks workers, peasants and other broad sections of anti-Japanese patriotic forces and lead the Korean revolution as a whole to victory by waging the sacred war with responsibility by employing scientific tactics and strategies which would accurately reflect the interests of the masses.

In fact, the young communists of a new generation of Korea led by President **Kim Il Sung** had to overthrow the Japanese imperialism, a newly-emerging military power.

In the Sino-Japanese war and the Russo-Japanese war, it had easily defeated great powers whose territories were tens of times larger than that of it.

It would be no easy matter to defeat that power and win back the country. To overthrow Japanese imperialism

meant to defeat the military power of Japan, which had received universal recognition. It meant to overpower the fanatical Japanese spirit and to emerge victorious in a war of attrition against Japan, a country which had been accumulating manpower, materials and financial power for nearly 70 years since the Meiji Restoration.

But the young President **Kim Il Sung** and his comrades thought that if they waged an armed struggle for three or four years they could defeat Japan.

If they were asked what guarantee they had for their judgment, they had nothing to say.

What guarantee could they have with empty hands?

They had only patriotism and young blood.

The Korean young communists of a new generation said three or four years not because they made light of the strength of Japan, but because they thought that their patriotism was stronger and they were righteous.

Their guarantee was the strength of the twenty million Korean people. They were convinced that if they trained the twenty million people well and induced them to rise in a struggle everywhere and beat the Japanese troops and police, they could win their independence.

What President **Kim Il Sung** had was the great idea associated with the two pistols given by his father.

That was all.

Having understood the view of President **Kim Il Sung**,

his faithful comrade-in-arms Cha Kwang Su responded promptly on the spot:

"While the Korean communist movement is going through ordeals and the people are lamenting its setbacks, we here in Kalun have made a historic statement marking a fresh start of the Korean revolution.

With this statement heralding a new dawn we Korean communists will advance along a new path.

Comrades, let us take up arms and come out in a life-and-death struggle against Japanese imperialism." This speech shows how correct President **Kim Il Sung**'s thought, judgment and decision were.

The historic report delivered by the President at the Kalun meeting was titled "The path of the Korean revolution".

The report was unanimously adopted at the meeting in late June 1930.

Armed struggle was the best way for the Korean people to carve out their destiny.

For its validity the line of armed struggle was translated into practice immediately.

President **Kim Il Sung** organized the Korean Revolutionary Army.

The ceremony of founding the Korean Revolutionary Army took place on July 6, 1930.

Before distributing the arms President **Kim Il Sung** made

a brief speech on the mission and aim of the Korean Revolutionary Army.

In the speech he defined the Korean Revolutionary army as a political and paramilitary organization of the Korean communists formed in preparation for launching an anti-Japanese armed struggle and announced that it would serve as the basis for building a permanent revolutionary armed force. He also said the basic mission of the Korean Revolutionary Army was to enlighten and awaken the masses of people in towns and rural villages and unite them under the banner of anti-Japanese resistance and at the same time, to gain experiences in the armed struggle and prepare for the formation of fully-fledged armed forces in the future.

The report also reflected the immediate task of the army to build up a backbone for the formation of anti-Japanese armed units, to lay a mass foundation for the revolutionary army to rely on and to make full military preparations for starting an armed struggle.

President **Kim Il Sung** made such a correct decision on the basis of the scientific analysis of the past and present of the historical development of Korea and the situation of the neighboring countries and the international situation.

Eventually, the Korean people who were placed at the crossroads of life or death under the yoke of the Japanese imperialists took up arms and made preparations for an

armed struggle against the aggressors. This meant, as the Koreans say today, the first step to realize the Songun idea associated with the two pistols given to the President by his father.

I talked above about the thought of "Aim High" of Kim Hyong Jik and his will to explain the meaning of that first step.

Like this, Songun or the army first politics started from the two pistols handed by Kim Hyong Jik and was applied by the decision and practice of President **Kim Il Sung**.

3. Response by rifle-the proof of history

Genuine patriotic young people in Korea took up arms in their hands.

Not yet many young people, only with a few guns, were preparing for a war against a one million strong Japanese army.

Deprived of state power, territory and resources, the unhappy sons of the ruined nation settled in China and challenged the Japanese aggressors without hesitation, though they were empty handed.

They believed only in the people. To them the people were the state, home front and regular army.

The young communists of Korea had to obtain weapons and munitions by themselves, but they did not doubt the success of anti-Japanese war.

Some of them feared that they would be ridiculed by the world, if they, with only a few guns, dare to oppose such a military power as Japan.

Some others also thought: " All of the Righteous Volunteers, the Independence Army and even the 300,000-strong army of Zhang Xueliang (A leader of the Chinese militarists) have not been able to escape the fate of

being crushed by the strength of the Japanese troops, and then what shall we be relying on when we decided to defeat them ?

Have we state power or territory or wealth? "

But the decision of President **Kim Il Sung** was unswerving and his comrades unhesitatingly followed the arduous road of armed struggle only with the belief in him.

They had to take arms from the Japanese imperialists and smash them with the arms. It was really an arduous road unprecedented in history.

Even when there is a helping hand that would show mercy, one can not win, if his will and strength are weak.

It is a lesson of history.

In 1936 the Spanish people waged a revolutionary war against the counter-revolutionary forces of Franco backed up by the allied imperialist forces.

The Spanish people had established a Republic and so had their home front and were given aid by the international revolutionary forces.

At that time the Soviet Union sent 417 million Rubles worth aid materials, aircraft, tanks and other heavy arms and dispatched military advisers and volunteers. The "International Coordination Commission to Aid Spain" set up in Paris in August 1938 sent its fund of 800 million Francs and large quantities of foods, clothes and medicines for 2 years and more than one million volunteers went to

the Spanish front in response to the call of communist parties in the European region, but 750,000 were killed or wounded and the revolution was stifled.

What is the reason?

The Spanish people had not prepared their own force firmly.

The Korean communists did not look for any other's strength, but decided to wage an armed struggle by relying on their own strength. It was quite a correct choice.

On the difficult road they were even to sacrifice themselves.

Not a few young people risked their lives for a rifle.

But they were convinced that taking rifles from the Japanese imperialists and fighting with them was a more worthwhile and proud choice than suffering the sorrow of a ruined nation because of the weak state power.

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army led by President **Kim Il Sung** fought against the Japanese imperialist aggressors for over 20 years with arms in their hands to win back the country.

The fight was difficult, but no one hesitated or stepped back.

They had been taught by President **Kim Il Sung** that weapon is the only means to win back national dignity and add luster to it.

Sometimes they experienced a heartbreaking sacrifice,

but did not show their tears, gripping their rifles more firmly.

They swore to revenge themselves thousand fold on the enemy with the rifles.

At last, the anti-Japanese war emerged victorious.

On August 9, 1945 the anti-Japanese armed ranks attacked the citadel of the Japanese imperialists on order of President **Kim Il Sung**.

The Japanese imperialists declared unconditional surrender on August 15.

Afterwards, President **Kim Il Sung** said:

"The victorious anti-Japanese revolution proved the validity of the truth that revolution must be made with arms.

It enabled us to hold fast to the revolutionary line of army building in the whole course of building a new country and carrying out the cause of socialism after liberation and to devote all our efforts to building a powerful revolutionary armed force."

President **Kim Il Sung** believed that state power and national dignity are all coming out of weapon, independence is unthinkable apart from weapon and if weapon rusts, the people become slaves.

His belief was proved by practice.

Liberated from the 40 year long Japanese occupation, Korea had a great deal of things to do.

Studying President **Kim Il Sung**'s method of politics of over 70 years, I could easily find it distinguished from other politicians' characteristics.

Let me observe the leaders of the working classes known well to history.

Marx began his revolutionary struggle in June 1847 with the formation of the Communist League, in other words, the founding of the Communist Party and Lenin too, started his revolutionary struggle with the founding of a Marxist party in 1903 according to the program of Marxist party at the second congress of the Russian Social Democratic Workers' Party.

Lenin and Stalin established the soviet power by winning power under the leadership of the Marxist party (Bolshevics) and on the basis of it, built the armed force of the nation by organizing the Worker-Peasant Red Army in January 1918 and the Worker Peasant Red Navy in February.

The Chinese revolution also founded the Communist Party of China in 1921 and then organized the Worker Peasant Red Army on August 1, 1927 by uniting the armed revolt units involved in Nanchang uprising and the peasant revolt army in the Honan area.

The above facts show the socialist politics had regarded it as an axiom of revolution to found a party first and then to build an army.

Nevertheless, President **Kim Il Sung** took it as a principle to solve all problems arising in the Korean revolution in his own way from the independent stand without adhering to the established theories or formulas.

As I had said, the President penetrated deep into the meaning of weapon and chose the way of founding an army first, and then a party.

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army was a special armed force of a new type entrusted with military mission to bring down Japanese imperialism as well as political mission.

Under its correct leadership and guaranteed armed force the army successfully guided the organizational and ideological preparations for party founding, the expansion and development of the united front movement and the preparations for all people's resistance.

The army was an armed force, a party and a government.

The revolutionary history of President **Kim Il Sung** can be said to be the history of the leadership of Songun revolution, the history of attaching great importance to weapon.

After the liberation too, President **Kim Il Sung** observed the principle.

Before building a nation he paid the first and foremost attention to training a regular armed force and developing

defence industry for strengthening national defence power and energetically guided it.

As a result, in a matter of only two years and a half after liberation the Korean People's Revolutionary Army was developed into the Korean People's Army, a regular revolutionary armed force and revealed its might before the world.

It was before the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Korean People's Army was an army of revolution and the people which inherited the idea and traditions of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

It was a crack armed force with strong home front and arms and equipment under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

With only two years of history as a regular armed force, the Korean People's Army had to cope with the mercenaries of the United States that was boasting of over 100 years of history of war and invincibility.

The Korean War provoked by the US imperialists on June 25 1950 was really a very difficult fight.

Underestimating the arms and equipment of the Korean People's Army and its history, the United States planned to occupy the area of north Korea in a day.

The United States was so insolent as to clamor that they would take breakfast in Haeju, lunch in Pyongyang and

dinner in Sinuiju, a western border city.

But the United States miscalculated.

As Supreme Commander, President **Kim Il Sung** said:

"The Americans have misjudged the Koreans".

With this remark he put an end to the arrogance of the United States and immediately issued an order to check the attack of the enemy and go over to a counter-attack along all frontline.

In support of their Supreme Commander's order the People's Army units annihilated the aggressors.

Weapons in their hands were not a mere physical means to overpower the enemies.

The weapons were bearing the lesson of history, the request inscribed with blood and the truth that laying down them even a moment leads to slavery.

During my stay in Korea I visited the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and the Monument to War Victory.

On display there were enlarged military maps drawn by the United States and its followers for the Korean War.

There were also photographs of the south Korean army attacking the north.

But the arrows of operation drawn unilaterally by the United States were overridden the same day.

The general offensive of the Korean People's Army astonished the United States.

In three days of the war the Korean People's Army liberated Seoul and, further advancing southward, liberated the area amounting to 93 % of the whole territory of Korea.

Confused at it, the United States let the United Nations send to the Korean front mercenaries of 15 satellite countries.

As a result, there continued a difficult war between the young Korean People's Army and the international aggressors under the cloak of UN forces. At the Monument to Victorious War in Pyongyang there stand thematic sculptural groups portraying the heroic fight of soldiers of the Korean People's Army.

Among them we can see the figure of a battery officer who is called "commander of a coast battery on Wolmi Island".

The battery fought for a week only with 4 artillery pieces against 50,000 enemy troops.

All of the battery members were sacrificed after ensuring victory of operation.

Nevertheless, their sacrifice was different from "A week of blood of May", a defensive battle of Paris Commune members near the Parlechaise tomb between May 21 and 28, 1871.

Till the last moment the battery soldiers believed in the validity of their struggle and victory.

They were never pessimistic.

The United States could not break the Korean army and people's loyalty to their party, motherland and revolution and their indomitable fighting spirit.

The United States sustained heavy losses in the Korean War and bent their knees to the Korean people on July 27, 1953.

The war results achieved by the Korean army and people are as follows;

- The number of enemy soldiers killed, wounded and taken prisoners amounted to 1,567,128, among them US soldiers 405,498, south Korean soldiers 113,965 and satellite countries' soldiers 3,665.

- The enemy combat and technical equipment:

11 planes were captured, 5,729 shot down and 6,484 damaged.

Korean people gathered at the war victory square, shouting "Hurrah" in delight.

Looking up at President **Kim Il Sung** on the rostrum of the square, they thought: "If he failed to build up army overcoming all trials after liberation, we could not but have been reduced to the slaves of the United States again. Weapon is the almighty treasure to safeguard our destiny and glorify our dignity.

Weapon is military power and military power is state power."

As the Korean people think, if their weapon was weak,

the United States would have made Korea its colony under the liberal democratic system already in the 1950s.

The power of weapon is not defined by its up-to-date efficiency.

In the Korean War the United States had hundreds of times stronger arms and equipment.

Americans secured the command of the air and the sea and the ground force was stronger than the Korean People's Army beyond comparison.

After winning the war the Koreans said:

"However efficient a weapon may be, it is as good as a stick, if it is used by a soldier in the low state of spirit.

We defeated the United States by fighting it with idea and spirit as well as weapon."

In fact Korea created a miracle in the modern history of war.

With a few old-fashioned planes Korea overpowered the US air force boasting of "air supremacy" and with small torpedo boats Korea sank 17,000 ton class heavy cruiser "Baltimore", a "moving island" and damaged a 14,000 ton class light cruiser and on the land "tank hunters" smashed US tanks.

That was not all of the miracles performed by Korea which was armed ideologically and spiritually and gripped weapons.

In January 1968 the US armed spy ship "Pueblo"

carrying 83 officers and men was captured by the navy of the Korean People's Army and in April 1969 a large spy plane "EC-121" was shot down by a plane of the Korean People's Army.

On every occasion the United States got infuriated and threatened to spark off a war against the Korean people.

But the Korean people were neither intimidated nor surprised.

President **Kim Il Sung** solemnly declared that Korea would answer retaliation with retaliation and all-out war with all-out war. Korea had so strong state power as to resolutely smash any aggressive maneuver of the United States.

The United States cried loudly, but knelt down before the state power of Korea.

Crying that if the ship were not returned, the United States could not but ignite a war.

But the "Pueblo" was not sent back to the United States, but is now afloat on the Taedong River in Pyongyang and used as a place for anti-US education.

It displeases the United States, but it can't help the predicament because it knows well that Korea is a country with great self-respect and powerful military strength. Korea has been divided into the north and the south for over 60 years by "negotiation" between the United States and the former Soviet Union. In the north and south of the

38[1] parallel there are constantly deployed huge armed forces of both sides, straining the situation ceaselessly. Every year the United States and its followers stage large scale war games, watching for a chance to invade the north, only to fail.

✻ *The 38th parallel*

When Japan was defeated in August 1945, the United States and the former Soviet Union artificially drew an unlawful demarcation line on the 38' parallel north latitude in central Korea for their interests.

It is called the military demarcation line and around it there are deployed huge armed forces of both belligerent sides, always straining the situation.

With an aim to perpetuate Korea's division by making "two Koreas" the south Korean authorities built in the 1970s a reinforced concrete wall (8-10 meters high and 6-9 meters wide) on the 250 kilometer long distance between the east and west ends of the Korean peninsula, thereby giving rise to an artificial "frontier ".

In spite of the strong demand of the international public to abolish the concrete wall, the south Korean authorities are denying the existence of the wall itself.

If Korea had weak weapon and strength, the United States would have realized its ambition for aggression

already long ago.

In this sense I can say that the mighty national power of Korea was the major force to deter the stubborn war moves of the United States.

4. Alternative of bullet or candy

Long ago President **Kim Il Sung** said that he would have no more desire if the people are dressed in silk clothes, eat boiled rice with meat soup and live in tile-roofed houses.

Korea is not a rich country.

The Korean people too, earnestly desire to dress well and fare richly, enjoying happiness like others.

But it is necessary to have a correct knowledge on the Koreans' view of happiness.

They do not desire to enjoy individual happiness with luxury villa and private car.

The Koreans' view of happiness is to do more work for society and the collective, build up their ancestral home villages and work places better and live in a harmonious family, helping and leading forward each other.

It is ancestral good manners and customs handed down through generations.

But their simple dream is faced with maneuvers of obstructionists. They are war maniacs of the United States and south Korea.

The Korean people have consistently maintained the principle advanced by President **Kim Il Sung** to build an independent economy by giving priority to the

development of heavy industry simultaneously with the development of light industry and agriculture.

It is a real line on independent economic construction relying on domestic resources and technique.

In practice the Korean people experienced the validity and vitality of the line of the construction of independent national economy.

Generally, they have not known the prices of staple and subsidiary foods.

Education and medical service are all free of charge.

It bespeaks that they do not know any inconvenience in their daily life and so achieved their desire.

The US war maniacs are trying to trample it down.

The Korean people would never give up the great and precious welfare.

If welfare is to be safeguarded, one should have powerful strength.

In 1966 the United States gave rise to the Bac Bo Gulf incident and the Caribbean crisis to exacerbate the international situation.

In October that year President **Kim Il Sung** convened a conference of the Workers' Party of Korea and advanced the wise policy of simultaneously building up the economy and defences to suit the prevailing tense situation.

The Korean people found themselves unequal to the task because they had healed the war wounds not long

before.

The Korean people, however, could not repeat the disgraceful history in which they lost their country to the Japanese imperialists because of weak state power. We should build up military power! This kind of resolute decision could not be made by anybody.

In fact, President **Kim Il Sung** had been very pleased to see the people enjoying the blessing of socialism after healing the war wounds.

I wonder what they say if I call on them to tighten their belts again.... But he believed in the people. Well aware of their leader's noble love for his nation and country, the Korean people actively supported the line of the President.

They once again tightened their belts.

For independent dignity! They did not want to be reduced to the slaves of imperialism.

For their dignity the Korean people chose bullet between bullet and candy.

Eventually, Korea's defence industry which was created at the motion of President **Kim Il Sung** right after liberation in 1945 could be developed into a self-defensive independent industry to defend the country by itself, an up-to-date industry manufacturing sophisticated weapons on the basis of the latest science and technology and a secure and reliable industry to continue production even in wartime.

That the Korean people's choice was right is more clearly proved today as in the past.

The international situation today is very complex because the strong arm policy for hegemony is rampant in the world.

Only seeking its unreasonable interests, the arrogant United States ignores the United Nations and perpetrates an indiscriminate bombing on sovereign states.

The reality of Korea proved that if a country is to check the strong arm policy and despotism of the United States, it should strengthen its state power, in other word, physical deterrence.

In the first part of this article I referred to the thought of the "Aim High" of Kim Hyong Jik.

President **Kim Il Sung** did not forget the thought for scores of years.

The thought of "Aim High" ran through all his lines during the anti-Japanese armed struggle, the building of party, army and state after liberation, the fatherland liberation war, post-war reconstruction, socialist construction...

I was told a story that had happened in the Sobaek stream valley at the Mt. Paektu secret camp in the spring of 1943 before Korea was liberated from the yoke of Japanese imperialism.

One spring day, a year after the birth of Leader **Kim Jong Il**,

the son of Mt. Paektu, President **Kim Il Sung** strolled in the forests together with his wife Kim Jong Suk, an anti-Japanese heroine and made very meaningful remarks.

Remembering his precious comrades who had sacrificed their lives on the road of bloody anti-Japanese war, he said:

"We are faced with sacred tasks to smash the Japanese imperialist robbers and liberate the country and further, build socialism as desired by the people.

As my father instructed, if I fail to accomplish the sacred task, I will let my son do it and, if he fails, his son would do it".

His remark was bearing the thought of "Aim High", the idea of continuous revolution for final victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

He did as he had decided.

The built up military power does not remain eternal.

It should be consolidated continuously.

In the 1960s the Korean people held in high esteem His Excellency Great **Kim Jong Il**, another great brilliant commander as the leader of the army and the party.

∗ *Mt. Paektu*

It is the highest mountain in Korea with 2,750 meters high above the sea level.

The Koreans call it ancestral mountain and the

contiguous line of the terrestrial stratum of the Korean peninsula great Paektu Range because it started from Mt. Paektu.

*President **Kim Il Sung** kindled the flame of anti-Japanese revolution in the Mt.Paektu area and fought for 20 years, thereby liberating Korea.*

*Leader **Kim Jong Il** was born at the Mt. Paektu secret camp on February 16, 1942. In February 2002 the progressive people of the world sent their delegates to the Mt. Paektu secret camp and let them publish "Mt. Paektu declaration" and call for visiting it every 4 years as "the holy place of the Sun ".*

Leader **Kim Jong Il** fully personified the idea and leadership of President **Kim Il Sung** and worked as the recognized leader of the revolutionary armed forces as well as the party.

Leader **Kim Jong Il'**s judgment and scientific foresight as regards the prevailing situation were always correct and his plan integrated the interests and desire of the army and people.

Leader **Kim Jong Il'**s view of consolidating military power was the same with that of President **Kim Il Sung**. He is possessed of the thorough view of weapon of a revolutionary. He remarked:

"Weapon can be said to be eternal companion and comrade of a revolutionary, it is my principle and view of

weapon." He also noted that revolution is carved out, advanced and completed by weapon. The army is the party, the state and the people.

It is a new definition bearing a profound philosophy.

Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s love for weapon is associated with a moving story.

It was on July 10, 1952 when the Korean War was at its height.

The day marked the 58th birthday of Kim Hyong Jik, father of President **Kim Il Sung** and grandfather of Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

President **Kim Il Sung** asked his 11 year old son **Kim Jong Il** if he knew the idea of a song written by his grandfather Kim Hyong Jik "A green pine tree on the Nam Hill".

Leader **Kim Jong Il** answered the thought of the song is "Aim High".

President **Kim Il Sung** told him that it was the grandfather's lifelong slogan and added:

"Departing from us, your grandfather left me two pistols bearing the thought of 'Aim High'.

With the two pistols I organized the first armed ranks and declared war upon Japan and liberated the country.

But our revolution has not yet finished.

The Yankees who occupied south Korea triggered off a war to swallow even the north.

We should smash the Yankees at any cost and liberate south Korea.

So, we should continue revolution till we achieve national reunification and independence and sweep all the imperialists out of the world."

His remarks were permeated with the thought of weapon.

After a while President **Kim Il Sung** produced a pistol wrapped in a red cloth and said:

"This pistol is for you. I hope you would receive it as a baton of revolution. It has been handed down three generations of our Mangyongdae family. So, you should keep it well for all your life.

A revolutionary should not lay down weapon throughout his life.

You should always keep in mind that weapon is an assistant guaranteeing the victory of revolution."

Taking the pistol as heavy as beyond measure, Leader **Kim Jong Il** pledged "I will keep your words in mind and share my destiny with the pistol all my life."

The President continued:

"The enemies you would encounter are not to be easily beaten.

The Yankees and Japs would continue to desperately try to swallow our country in the future too, as yesterday and today.

So, you should never lay down weapon. Only by means of weapon, can you defeat the enemies."

With such an earnest request the President handed the pistol to his son as a revolutionary heritage as his father Kim Hyong Jik had done.

Writing this story here, I tried to imagine what Leader **Kim Jong Il** at 11 would have thought of when he was given the pistol by his father President **Kim Il Sung**, the legendary hero.

In his childhood Leader **Kim Jong Il** had taken a wooden pistol made by guerrillas for him as the most favourite plaything. Now he was handed from his father President **Kim Il Sung** the pistol associated with the soul of the Mangyongdae family.

He might have thought of the miserable sight of the enemies killed by the bullets of the pistol!

He might also have thought of the course of arduous struggle of President **Kim Il Sung** who had braved a long way of bloody battles with the pistol in his hand!

He might have made a pledge to accomplish the cause of Juche with the pistol imbued with the idea of "Aim High".

This story took place 55 years ago.

One evening in June 1995 Leader **Kim Jong Il** remembered the day and said to officials:

"Rifle is a comrade which does not know treachery.

I value and love rifle most. The great leader gave me a pistol when I was 11 years old.

At that time I did not know why he gave me the pistol, not a plaything.

Passing through the road of revolution full of ups and downs, I deeply felt why the great leader gave the pistol to me when I was young and how precious it is."

He went on to say:

"Our rifle is a weapon of the working class, a weapon of revolution and a weapon of justice. Our rifle is permeated with the priceless blood and soul of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners. The destiny of socialism depends on it. Without gun we can not win a fight with the enemy nor can we safeguard the dignity and honor of a country, nation and man. I always share my breath with rifle."

Through the remarks we can read the firm resolve of Leader **Kim Jong Il** to carry through the idea of "Aim High".

Long afterwards President **Kim Il Sung** provided a firm basis for Leader **Kim Jong Il** to lead Korea with arms.

President **Kim Il Sung** in his lifetime spoke highly of the heroic manly pluck of Leader **Kim Jong Il** and his disposition of Mt. Paektu.

On December 24, 1991 he entrusted him with the position of Supreme Commander of the Korean People's

Army and on April 9, 1993 the position of Chairman of the National Defence Commission which controls the whole revolutionary armed forces and defence upbuilding.

In his last period President **Kim Il Sung** taught Leader **Kim Jong Il** that if one controls the army alone, one can stuff up any hole soon and that the army should always be controlled by the party.

Two years later, on April 9, 1995 Leader **Kim Jong Il** said to commanding officers of the Korean People's Army:

"Thinking of the remarks made by the leader that day appointing me Chairman of the National Defence Commission, I ardently yearn for him.

Already at that time he might have looked ahead into today.

Our leader was the heave-born great man with clairvoyant wisdom and foresight."

Like this, President **Kim Il Sung** and Leader **Kim Jong Il** devoted their all to complete with weapon the Korean revolution pioneered by weapon and to defend and glorify the people-centered socialism, the embodiment of the idea of "Aim High".

That's why the Korean army and people supported their leader's intention and turned out to consolidate the military power of the country, performing surprising miracles.

In August 1998 Korea successfully launched an artificial earth satellite "Kwangmyongsong No.l".

Already in the 1970s Korea fortified the whole country and armed all people by making everybody attach importance to military affairs and study them hard.

It is not a secret that they live and fight with a rifle in one hand and a sickle or a hammer in the other. No other country in the world has built up such a military power.

In the course of tens of years of socialist construction the Korean people were firmly convinced that weapon is comrade which does not know treachery and they can achieve their cause only with weapon.

Such conviction can neither be forced nor be persuaded.

Their experiences and historical truth made the Korean people choose the road with strong self-respect and independence.

**** Kwangmyongsong No.l***

It is the name of the first artificial earth satellite of the DPRK.

Korean scientists and technicians manufactured it by their own efforts and technology and launched it in August 1998, putting it in orbit at a stroke.

5. Succession; Innovation-Songun is a life

To the Korean people 1994 was an unforgettable year which inflicted an intolerable pain on their hearts.

In July that year flags were hung at half-mast at a time in many countries of the world.

A mourning flag was hoisted at the UN headquarters in New York.

The Korean people and the progressive people of the world were all buried in a heartbreaking grief of loss.

President **Kim Il Sung**, the sun of the cause of human independence, an elder statesman of the world and hero of the 20th century passed away unexpectedly.

Wailing, choking with sobs, writhing in agony, grudge...

The sky and the earth were writhing with lamentation. The world saw the CNN TV live report on a ceremony of paying the last honors to President **Kim Il Sung**.

At that time I who had longed for Korea and respected President **Kim Il Sung** mourned for him in tears and worried about the future of Korea.

The Korean people were suffering hundreds of times greater grief than the children who lost their father.

I wondered when they would rise again.

The western media seethed too.

Clamoring that it was the time for the red flag of

socialism to be lowered, they loudly advertised about collapse of north Korea.

With the collapse of socialism in Eastern Europe the socialist market disappeared. To make the matters worse, severe natural disasters were repeated in Korea.

All kinds of challenges cropped up one after another as if to test the Korean people's will and confidence.

At that time the Korean people thought only of Leader **Kim Jong Il** as they had looked up to President **Kim Il Sung**.

"As long as you lead us, we do not fear anything in the world."

Leader **Kim Jong Il** heard the voice of the hearts of the people.

Korea was confronted with the dogged blockade and pressure of the imperialists and their threat of war and economic hardships caused by severe disasters...

The light went out in streets and smoke stopped rising from the chimneys of factories.

Running trains stopped on the way and substitute food was served at table.

History proved that choice by a leader is essential to the revolution. It is because choice by an individual decides the destiny of a man, but choice by a leader influences a country, a nation and, furthermore, the change of the situation of the world.

Blindly following the American logic that the ruin of

the economy leads to the ruin of the state, not only the enemies, but neighboring countries too talked that Korea would give precedence to the economy after all.

At that time Leader **Kim Jong Il** was reminded of the remarks made by President **Kim Il Sung** in his lifetime.

President **Kim Il Sung** had stressed the need to take hold of the army and said the army should be controlled by the party.

These remarks encouraged Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

Take hold of the army! It does not simply mean commanding the armed forces.

Korea is a country in which the army and the people are united single-mindedly around the party and their leader like a family.

That's why in Korea there can not be found any racial and factional strife and disturbance with different isms and assertions and interests.

In Korea the army performs only the mission to defend the safety of the country from foreign aggressors.

Then, what does it mean to take hold of the army?

There can be different explanations of it.

Anyhow, it means to renovate the atmosphere of the country as a whole by relying on the revolutionary armed forces and consolidate military power to cope with the increasing aggressive moves of the imperialists.

Proceeding from his scientific analysis of the prevailing

situation and the future, Leader **Kim Jong Il** decided not to stick to any established theory and experience, but put forward the army as the pillar of revolution and push ahead with the revolution and construction by relying on it as President **Kim Il Sung** had taught.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** perceived that if his country gave priority to the economy for immediate gain, it would fall into a trap of destruction of socialism as desired by the United States.

This judgment was neither a desperate choice without any definite aim, nor a choice of being made a victim of the blockade of the enemies.

It was a choice of advance based on the penetration into the essence of the complicated situation. Candy or rifle?

At the crossroads of it Leader **Kim Jong Il** resolutely took rifle to ensure dignity to his country and people.

On the morning of the January 1, 1995 he knew that the entire army and people were waiting for his New Year address, but he saw to it that President **Kim Il Sung**'s New Year address for 1994 was aired again on radio and TV.

At that hour he wrote a letter reading:

"We see 1994 out in bitter tears and the new year in.

Let all of us work energetically with one mind and will as soldiers and disciples of the Great Leader to make our country, our motherland richer and stronger.

January 1, 1995 Kim Jong Il"

Then he left for a post of the People's Army in a young pine woods.

Afterwards, remembering the meaning of his travel to the front, he pointed out:

"Under the current circumstances it is necessary to resolutely strengthen the People's Army in order to decisively frustrate the persistent moves of the imperialists and reactionaries to isolate and stifle us and defend the revolutionary gains.

If I had thought only of temporary economic difficulties and called at a shop to know whether there are nylon socks and the like, we would have already gone to ruin.

The reality clearly proves the truth of revolution that power comes out of weapon and is maintained by it. "

It was not the first time for Leader **Kim Jong Il** to inspect a unit of the People's Army.

He embarked on the guidance of the People's Army already in August 1960 and set about enforcing Songun politics in the late 1960s. At the 4th session of the 4th party committee of the Korean People's Army in January 1969 Leader **Kim Jong Il** smashed the maneuvers of the militarist bureaucrats and firmly established the political leadership system of the party in the People's Army.

He commanded military operations personally on many occasions such as the US armed spy ship "Pueblo" incident in January 1968 and the large spy plane "EC-121" incident

in April 1969.

Military career of Leader **Kim Jong Il** is as follows:

In August 1960 he embarked on Songun-based leadership with his inspection of units of the People's Army. In February 1974 he was elected member of the Political Committee of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In December 1979 he established the unitary leadership system in the People's Army at the 20th session of the 6th party committee of the Korean People's Army. In October 1980 he was elected member of the presidium of the political bureau, secretary and member of the military commission of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea at the 6th congress of the party.

On December 24, 1991 he was appointed Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army at the 19 plenary meeting of the 6 central committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In April 1992 he was conferred the title of Marshal of the DPRK.

In April 1993 he was elected Chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK Korea is the country of Songun politics, the only one of its kind in the world.

In the word of Songun "Son" means first or precedence and "Gun" army or military strength.

So Songun politics can be said to mean army-first politics or politics of giving precedence to military affairs.

It is utterly different from military regime or militarization. History has recorded not a few countries that gave precedence to military affairs.

For example, Sparta, a city state in the Balkan peninsula in the 12th century B.C. placed military affairs above all social activities and enforced strong arm politics and so, it was recognized as the state with powerful military strength along with Athens of ancient Greece. In the 20 century Hitler of fascist Germany and Pinochet of Chile enforced militarism for militarization of their countries.

And in the new century too, Japan is going along the road of militarization again.

But the strong arm politics of Sparta and the militaristic politics of both Hitler and Pinochet went to ruin because of their plunderous character and their own weakness.

Japan can not be an exception.

It is because military regime and strong arm politics in exploiter society recklessly infringe upon the independence of the popular masses and plunder other countries.

Songun politics of Korea has nothing to do with militaristic politics and strong arm politics.

Songun politics of Korea aims at safeguarding the destiny of the masses of people and develop history.

That's why it is politics for the people.

Songun politics closely combines politics for the people

and military affairs for the people.

In the past some socialist countries enforced the politics of giving priority to military affairs.

But their politics of giving priority to military affairs was nothing but a stopgap to overcome the then difficult situation, not their unique mode of politics.

When a war broke out between the former Soviet Union and Germany in June 1941, Stalin organized the National Defence Commission as a wartime extraordinary institution and let it guide military, political, economic and all other affairs of the state.

Nevertheless, it was only a temporary organization to cope with the emergency of war, not a solid strategic mode of politics.

Then, what is the essence of Songun politics of Korea?

The Songun idea established by Leader **Kim Jong Il** is to give priority to military affairs in the party's leadership of the revolution and construction.

In other words, it is an idea to attach greater importance to military affairs than all other affairs and give definite precedence to them and to push ahead with the revolution and construction with the revolutionary army as the main force.

The Songun idea originated from the two pistols left by Kim Hyong Jik and the Down-with-Imperialism Union whose ultimate objective was to bring down imperialism.

The Songun idea of Korea originated from the line of anti-Japanese national liberation struggle advanced by President **Kim Il Sung** at Kalun meeting in June 1930 and it was applied to the organization of the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrillas (The Korean People's Revolutionary Army) in April 1932 when President **Kim Il Sung** embarked on his Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

His whole life was run through with the idea.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** started Songun politics in the late 1960s.

Already at that time the commanding officers of the Korean People's Army respected him not only as their leader, but as Supreme Commander and were faithful to his unitary leadership.

The declaration of Songun politics was, on the other hand, the declaration of Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s will to definitely and completely succeed to the Songun-based line of President **Kim Il Sung** and go along the road of independence as in the time when the President was alive.

The DPRK embodied Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s will and plan and adopted Songun as its main political mode.

The Korean army and people firmly believe that Songun is the most righteous politics that safeguards and glorifies the destiny of a family and individual as well as of the country.

Every Korean says like this: A burglar armed with

sword and rifle has an eye on your house, if your house is empty or people in the house are off their guard, the burglar is going to break into it.

Aware of it, what should the family do, beg him to go to others or ask a next door neighbor for help, the best way is to increase the strength of your family so that the burglar can not covet things in your house.

Songun politics of Korea can be said to be similar with it.

In other words the Songun idea embodies the revolutionary principle that weapon ensures the victory of the cause of revolution and the independence and prosperity of the country and nation.

It is also based on the unique principle that the army is the party, the state and the people.

The profound principle can be explained like this:

The army is precisely the revolutionary party.

It means that without grasping the army, the party can not display its might sufficiently and without being led by a revolutionary party, the army can not perform its mission as a revolutionary armed force and so, the party and the army constitute a community of destiny.

The army is precisely the state.

It means that only by relying on its own powerful revolutionary army, can the state emerge victorious in the struggle against the counterrevolutionary forces and

establish a government and maintain and consolidate it despite all challenges.

Here is an anecdote.

In 1970 the legitimate and progressive Alende government was established in Chile of Latin America.

After its inauguration the government took progressive measures and made bold political decisions.

It enforced land reform, nationalized major factories, mines, banks and communications, declared 200 mile territorial waters and broke from the UN Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea which was manipulated by the United States. At this the US imperialists cried that "another Cuba" appeared in Latin America and resorted to vicious schemes to topple down the legitimate government of Chile.

In February 1972 the general secretary of the national leadership of the People's United Action Movement of Chile visited Korea.

Great President **Kim Il Sung** asked him whether the government held the army under its control.

The general secretary proudly replied that the Chilean President successfully availed himself of the constitution to neutralize the army.

President **Kim Il Sung** asked once again if the neutralized army would support the legitimate government at any case.

He added that though Alende became President, Korea did not recognize that he fully grasped the government and in order to fully grasp the government, he should put the army and police under his complete control.

Alende, however, was hardly aware of the truth, engaging only in social and economic reform and having relations with some units of the army at the most. On the other hand, the reactionaries in collusion with the US imperialists put pressure upon the government to adopt the law on arms control and thus confiscate all weapons from the institutions under all parties belonging to the People's United Alliance.

As a result, the Alende government was disarmed.

On the basis of it, the US imperialists egged on commander of the army Pinochet, a pro-US element to commit a military coup and bring down the legitimate Alende government in September 1973.

President Alende was devoted to his principles till the last moment with an automatic rifle in his hand, but his government broke down in three years because it had failed to seize the army.

The lesson of Chile clearly showed that any progressive government can not be maintained without weapon and the army is state power.

Another reason why they say the army is the independent people is that only when they have a genuine

revolutionary army, can the masses of people glorify their independent dignity as the masters of the state and society. All Koreans proudly talk about Songun and regard themselves as advocators and implementers of Songun politics.

In fact, they foster the revolutionary soldiers' spirit and like the revolutionary soldiers' culture.

It is because in Korea the People's Army is a collective with the strongest sense of revolution, organization and discipline and the strongest combat power and all the Korean people love and envy it.

The revolutionary soldiers' spirit comprises the spirit of resolute defence of their leader, the spirit of resolute implementation of the leader's order, collective heroism and self-sacrificing spirit in the implementation of revolutionary tasks and revolutionary comradeship.

The revolutionary soldiers' culture means to introduce much more modern production practices and cultural ways of life with the conviction of victorious future, revolutionary mettle and optimism and enjoy cultural and emotional life at the highest level. Now I'd like to tell of the revolutionary soldiers' spirit alone.

A long time ago Leader **Kim Jong Il** set forth the theory that idea decides everything.

Then, what kind of idea does Leader **Kim Jong Il** advocate? Here is an account:

At the suggestion of President **Kim Il Sung** Korea was building Anbyon youth power plant in Kangwon province in the south-east of the country.

The project was entrusted to men of the People's Army. It is not secret that investment for the West Sea Barrage of Korea amounted to 4 billion dollars in all. But the construction expense for the power plant was twice as large as that for the West Sea Barrage.

It was a mammoth project.

What was the most difficult in the project was to build waterway tunnel scores of meters long.

The project was enormous in volume and needed scientific methods of construction and so many people were interested in it.

Opponents of Korea spoke ill of it as "impossible and reckless project", "the first adventure in the modern history of construction" and "power plant on a sheet of paper".

They even did not hesitate to attempt to lead the project to failure. From the very moment when they were given the honorable task by their Supreme Commander, men of the People's Army displayed indomitable self-sacrificing spirit and heroism.

The soldiers builders did not leave pits all the year round, saying: "When the party is determined, we can do anything".

"Nobody can equal the man who is prepared for death",

"Though we fell, let the red flag advance forward" and "Let us not see the blue sky of the motherland before implementing the order of the Supreme Commander".

A soldier who was wounded in his two arms and legs and unable to work refused to be hospitalized saying "without implementing his assignment a soldier has not even the right to die" and sang songs at the construction site to encourage his comrades.

When tunneling was near completion, tens of meters of section of the already built tunnel collapsed, thereby confining more than 20 soldiers in a face. Fortunately, the compressed air tube was not destroyed. Ordinary people would have felt easy to breath in air and thought only of how to escape danger. But the soldiers builders did not stop working, thinking that they could not put the mucks of the broken tunnel into the face nearing completion. We are soldiers of the Supreme Commander. We should advance forward to the end. With such a determination they worked on for 48 hours. Suddenly the compressed air stopped and rice balls and drinking water came in through the air tube.

They also saw a slip of paper reading: A rescue team is approaching the line 60 meters from the face.

Don't lose heart and withstand.

Outsiders did not know that they continued to work with the compressed air.

The slip also informed that officials from the CC of the

Workers' Party of Korea and competent medical group were waiting for them outside.

The soldiers builders hugged each other, imagining their Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** and shouted "We will be eternal on this road alive or dead with the honor of being soldiers of the Supreme Commander!"

They shouted in the air tube in chorus: "We continue tunneling. Send the compressed air in stead of food!"

Lots of such moving stories are told in the units of the People's Army.

One day in June 1996 Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited the power plant construction site and looked round the waterway tunnel which was built by soldiers with their blood and sweat.

He said in excitement that the soldiers made the tunnel with empty hand.

Afterwards, Leader **Kim Jong Il** saw to it that the spirit of resolutely defending the leader, the spirit of resolutely implementing the order of the leader and heroic self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the soldiers of the People's Army were called the revolutionary soldiers' spirit and it spread to the whole society.

The whole society of Korea is pervaded with the revolutionary soldiers' spirit and the people and the army have close ties of kinship and harmonize ideas and fighting traits.

For the purpose Leader **Kim Jong Il** made his painstaking efforts, leaving many exciting accounts.

He finds himself among soldiers all the year round to improve military power.

What kind of man is Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

I'd like to tell some anecdotes concerning his personality.

▲ Father of soldiers

-- Supreme Commander and persimmon tree company

＊ *Women's coastal battery*

In February 1992 Leader **Kim Jong Il** inspected a women's coastal battery which had been visited by President **Kim Il Sung** in 1972. The artillery emplacements were covered with thick ice formed by the waves beating upon the sea shore and there was also blowing a cutting wind.

Without regard to the cold sea wind Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** watched the combat training of the coastal artillery women with satisfaction before asking kindly:

"Aren't you cold?"

The soldiers replied in chorus:

"No."

The Supreme Commander smiled all over his face and looked into their faces with warmhearted eyes. Their faces were burned brown, exposed to the cold sea wind in winter, but overflowing with fighting spirit and mettle as well as the delight of enjoying the honorable event to see the Supreme Commander.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** called at the battery quarters and opened a footlocker. He took up a box of cream in the footlocker and opened its lid, sniffing at the cream.

He said to commanding officers: "The women soldiers had their faces chapped in the sea wind. What kind of cream is good for them?"

A commanding officer told him that powder is better than cream.

"Powder is better...? Then, I will tell light industry officials to send powder to you".

But Leader **Kim Jong Il** was reluctant to lay down the cream box, as if thinking of something.

Back from his on-site guidance tour in the evening, he said to accompanying officials:

"Anyhow, I'd like to send some of you to the battery to see the women soldiers' living condition. I had failed to listen to their opinion because I had not enough time."

He told some women officials to go to the battery next morning.

The following day the women officials told Leader

Kim Jong Il about their travel to the battery, saying that the battery commander's face got chapped badly.

He asked if they had not carried medical cream to her in the morning. The officials replied that they had not.

At this he said:

"Yesterday many people had been to the women's coastal battery with me, but nobody regrets to see the faces of women soldiers chapped in the sea wind. Let the surgeon bring medical cream and ointment and you should carry them tomorrow morning."

The officials felt heavy qualm of conscience.

Next morning an official left for the battery next to convey a packet of medical cream and ointment.

In the packet there was a slip of paper reading:

"The Supreme Commander was told that the commander of the women's coastal battery had her face chapped in the sea wind and gave an instruction to convey ointment and medical cream to you.

The method of the use is as follows..."

When the official conveyed the packet, the battery commander and all women soldiers shed the warm tears of emotion.

That evening the official told Leader **Kim Jong Il** about his visit to the battery.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** said to the accompanying officials:

"You are insensible men. When you had been told that

the faces of women soldiers got chapped in the sea wind, you should have thought of sending medical cream and ointment.

Accompanying me, you do not think of that.

It is lamentable.

You have no more feeling than a stone."

Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s remarks were stern.

Listening to him, the officials regretted that they had failed to learn after the Supreme Commander's warm humanity and noble virtues.

They had thought that as they serve in the coastal battery, the chapped face could not be helped.

But Leader **Kim Jong Il** who is the real father of so many sons and daughters did not think in so simple a manner.

His affection was on so high a plane that even the girl soldiers serving in coastal battery should not have their faces chapped in sea wind. This kind of fact can be seen only in the Korean People's Army led by Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il**.

* *Promise*

The following happened early in November 1995 when scarlet tinged leaves were falling one after another in the cold wind of the late autumn.

That day a meeting took place at the women's coastal

battery on the east coast to convey gifts sent by Leader **Kim Jong Il** to the battery.

A senior official of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces conveyed an impressive story associated with the gifts.

In the previous day Leader **Kim Jong Il** remembered in deep emotion what had happened when he visited the coastal battery and said that when he took leave of the battery, he had made promise to visit the soldiers again when persimmon got ripe in the autumn.

He said:

"As Supreme Commander, I had made promise with soldiers and so I should visit them, but I can't make time this year owing to many complicated affairs. Now that autumn has come and persimmon got ripe, the women soldiers would look forward to seeing me with impatience. So you should go to the battery and tell the soldiers that I can not go this year because of unavoidable circumstances and convey my gifts." He also earnestly asked the soldiers to intensify training and promote the combat efficiency of the battery and to take care of them not to catch cold.

The official conveyed the remarks of the Supreme Commander and his gifts, gold watches and high quality blankets.

All of a sudden the meeting hall turned into a sea of Excitement.

The women soldiers had eagerly looked forward to seeing the Supreme Commander again.

Now they felt a lump in their throats at the fatherly affection of the Supreme Commander who did not forget his promise.

Valuing his promise with soldiers above anything else, Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited the battery again one November day in 1997 in order to keep his promise to come again when persimmon gets ripe.

Though he was busy just ahead of his on-site guidance in the east coast area, he had a photograph taken with the soldiers who were wrapped in boundless joy and happiness and saw the persimmon they had grown.

Before leaving the battery he said in deep emotion:

"Now I have kept the promise that I would come again when persimmon gets ripe." Regarding the soldiers of the People's Army not simply as his juniors, but as his real children, he had made a promise with soldiers and kept the promise busy as he was caring for all affairs.

＊ *It was not a dream*

On November 24, 1997 Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited the women's coastal battery again.

The women soldiers' emotion and joy were beyond description. While shouting for joy, a young soldier could not believe her eyes and so pinched herself to see if it was

not a dream.

The young soldier had an unforgettable dream she had dreamt when she finished middle school.

... On a balmy spring day when all kinds of flowers were in full bloom the Supreme Commander visited her sunny house at the foot of a mountain.

Finding themselves in an unexpected circumstance, her mother and sister were at a loss what to do.

The Supreme Commander took a simple meal served by her mother without ceremony and told the girl to bring water.

She ran into the kitchen, hearing the voice of the Supreme Commander say to her mother:

"Your youngest daughter is quite pretty.

If she wears military uniform, it would become her". "Oh, wonderful. I will wear military uniform", saying to herself like that, she offered clean water to the Supreme Commander when he said to her.

"Now let us go together. Wear military uniform and start military service. I would see you in military uniform."

He took her by the hand and helped her into a black car...

The dream was so vivid and precious that she could not forget. She kept it deep in her heart.

She was recommended to a university in Pyongyang, but gave it up to serve in the army.

Her dream came true like this. She was given a chance to see the Supreme Commander 20 days after she was assigned to the battery.

She felt as if still being in the dream.

She happened to see another unexpected scene.

The Supreme Commander motioned to her to come up to him.

She ran to him in haste and greeted him.

The Supreme Commander saw her in military uniform. Looking at her belt, he said such a simple belt is good to soldiers and non-commissioned officers and told officials to make good buckles.

Looking up at the Supreme Commander standing with her not in dream but in reality, the young soldier could not repress surging excitement and joy.

She was smiling brightly to see the Supreme Commander nearby.

In her smile the soldiers on the coastal outpost with the great father as their Supreme Commander saw the happy dream of the armed soldiers blooming into beautiful flowers.

＊ *Let us have a photo taken holding a persimmon.*

Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited the women's coastal battery once again.

That day he called at the education room of the battery

and saw a memorable picture and turned his eyes on education boards.

Watching the letters on the simple education boards which were revealing the skill peculiar to women, he smiled quietly and said it seemed that men are better than women in making visual aids for propaganda.

Blushing at it, the political instructor of the battery told him that the visual aids were made by a soldier who got recruited the previous year and her skill was still immature. An attendant remarked that unable to paint properly, the soldier seemed to have only decorated the boards with many colors.

At this all those present laughed lightly.

As for the soldier, she was a daughter of the woman soldier who had offered a bouquet to President **Kim Il Sung** on a visit to the battery 25 years before. Informed of it, Leader **Kim Jong Il** was surprised.

"You mean she is a daughter of the woman who presented a bouquet to the great leader?"

"Yes, sir"

He looked at the official with a doubting eye.

In fact, the battery had a few daughters of the women who had served there 25 years before when President **Kim Il Sung** visited it.

The visual aids maker was one of them. But the official was reluctant to tell him about the fact for fear he might

interfere with his crowded schedule.

Reading the mind of the official, Leader **Kim Jong Il** said:

"Now in the People's Army there stand many sons and daughters at the posts where their fathers or mothers stood in the past. In this battery alone not a few soldiers are said to stand at their mothers' posts. They include the daughter of the woman who presented a bouquet to the Great Leader. It is quite admirable".

Leader **Kim Jong Il** went out of the education room and wanted to see the soldier.

He asked once again if her mother had really presented a bouquet to the Great Leader.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** was so glad to confirm the fact.

As a result, the unknown ordinary soldier came to enjoy an uncommon honor and happiness.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** embraced the lovely soldier and kindly asked where her mother was living.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** also asked at what age she had been demobilized, what her father was, how large her family was and how old she was.

He was very satisfied to see a daughter of the former woman soldier serving at the battery in place of her mother.

Time passed and Leader **Kim Jong Il** posed for pictures together with soldiers.

He had pictures taken with commanding officers and twin brother and sister and then called the soldier.

At that time the soldier was holding a mellow persimmon in her hand. It was one of the persimmons the battery soldiers had picked after growing persimmon trees with sincerity while waiting for the Supreme Commander to come as he had promised.

The soldier had wished to pose for a photograph with the persimmon in her hand, but was confused when she was called. She could not readily stand before camera together with the Supreme Commander, holding a persimmon in her hand.

Reading her mind, Leader **Kim Jong Il** urged her to pose for a picture with a persimmon in her hand.

* *Nap and sweet sleep*

The following happened in the early morning of November 24, 1996.

All people of the country were still asleep in their warm beds.

Putting off his Sunday recreation, Leader **Kim Jong Il** embarked on the road of on-site guidance for soldiers at Panmunjom in the forefront.

It was 4 o'clock at dawn.

There was no light in the windows of dwelling houses.

When all people were fast asleep in the cradles of happiness, Leader **Kim Jong Il** continued to inspect the front for the security of the country.

As soon as the car left the capital, he closed his eyes lightly.

An intense weariness had fallen suddenly upon him. The car ran towards the front swiftly.

The driver was careful not to wake the Supreme Commander.

After running in the dark night, the car approached Kaesong city.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** opened his eyes and looked at his wrist watch. Then, he had the car stopped. The other cars carrying his suite stopped one after another.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** got out of his car. There was blowing the cold wind of the early winter.

He walked the road slowly.

All his suite members wondered at it.

What made him stop the car? Maybe, he is going to rest.. .or take breakfast?

Thinking in their own way, the suite members approached him.

That moment the cold wind blew.

Regardless of the cold, he looked round at his suite members, saying:

"If we enter Panmunjom now, the soldiers would be waked from sound sleep. Considering their trouble to defend the outpost in the forefront, it would be good to wait here for about two hours.

Let us enter after the soldiers woke and took breakfast."

Only then, did the suite members understand the Supreme Commander's intention and felt a lump in their throats.

Though he was busy caring for the affairs of the whole country, the Supreme Commander was going to wait on the road for two hours, exposed to the cold wind.

The soldiers were ready to stay up even ten or hundred nights if they should do so for the relaxation of the Supreme Commander. But he...

With the surging emotion the suite members looked up at the Supreme Commander.

They were reminded of the benevolent image of President **Kim Il Sung** who, during the past Korean war, had waited at the entrance of a village till daybreak for fear of waking peasants.

Two hours passed.

Only then, did the car carrying the Supreme Commander quietly leave for Panmunjom.

▲ Great brilliant commander

— The sky recognized four times

In the Mt.Taedok area there is afloat a legend on "four orders from the sky".

The four orders are as follows:

First, the heaven-born great man would show up on Mt.

Taedok. At that hour raise a fierce wind, darken the air and pour sleet so that any enemy could not try to attack.

Second, when the great man looks down on the stronghold of the enemies stop sleeting and disperse clouds in a moment so that he could unfold a great strategy.

Third, when the great man looks round the relics and remains visited by President **Kim Il Sung**, pour snow in large flakes in stead of sleet to congratulate his inspection and thus unfold splendid snow flower decoration as 33 years ago. Fourth, when the great man poses for a photograph with soldiers, ensure that the sun stops setting and the clouds safeguarding his safety are dispersed in a moment so that bright sunrays could be shed and his image be carved clearly on Mt. Taedok.

Then, who is the great man in the legend and how was the legend produced?

On March 18, 1996 a forefront post was seething just before 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The dream-like news on the Supreme Commander's visit to Mt. Taedok was going to be put into reality.

The soldiers on the mountain could not repress delight and excitement, but on the other hand, their hearts were burdened with a heavy concern.

It was because a section of the road to the mountain was seen directly from a post of the enemy's "military police".

The enemies were constantly watching the section to grasp the movement of men of the People's Army.

Nobody knew when and what the reckless enemies would do with the section as target.

Nevertheless, the Supreme Commander had to climb the mountain through the dangerous section despite the concern of the soldiers. Just at that moment a violent wind blew, overcastting the sky over Mt. Taedok with dark clouds and pouring sleet.

At the same time the mountain and its surroundings were covered with a thick mist.

At the mysterious phenomenon of nature the soldiers who were deeply concerned about the safety of the Supreme Commander shouted cheers all at once.

"Oh, the sky is marvelous. It shows the wonders of nature when the respected Supreme Commander is coming."

Amid the soldiers' shout of admiration the car of the Supreme Commander slowly climbed up Mt. Taedok.

After being saluted by the welcoming officials of the unit he went up to the observation post through the stone monument to President **Kim Il Sung**'s on-site teaching, the rock bearing the slogan of "a-match-for-a-hundred" and the monument to President **Kim Il Sung**'s on-site guidance in the wake of the footmarks left by President **Kim Il Sung** 33 years before. To their surprise, there appeared another

mysterious phenomenon that could not be regarded simply as a phenomenon of nature.

The dark clouds in the sky over the enemy side of the military demarcation line were splitted, letting the bright sunrays light the enemy side like illumination so that the Supreme Commander could watch the enemy post and concrete wall in detail.

"Comrades, look, the sky recognized the respected Supreme Commander again."

"How marvelous!

The sky seems to issue an order to shed bright sunshine."

The soldiers admired the Supreme Commander who penetrates into the secrets of nature and has the weather at his beck and call.

Their admiration continued after that too when he looked round the company education room and barracks.

The sky began to show its wonders for the third time.

Sleet discontinued and snow fell in large flakes.

That moment Mt. Taedok was covered with white snow and snow flowers blossomed on every tree branch as in February 1963 when President **Kim Il Sung** and Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** visited the mountain. The beautiful snow flowers on Mt. Taedok were so attractive as a splendid world of snow covered landscape to congratulate the Supreme Commander on his on-site guidance.

Fascinated by the white snow on the mountain, the soldiers shouted all together:

"Oh, snow flower!

This time the sky unfolded the acme of snow-covered scene!"

"It really recognizes the respected Supreme Commander!"

The soldiers made for the place where they would have a photograph taken with the Supreme Commander.

But they were enveloped with another anxiety.

The cloudy and dark weather was unfit for photographing.

That's why a measure was taken in advance to add light with the headlight of a car. But their worry proved unnecessary.

When the Supreme Commander went out of the company barracks to pose for a photograph together with soldiers, the sky began to perform its wonders as if having waited for the historic moment.

The brilliant sun shed its light on the air above Mt. Taedok, making the surroundings bright.

"Hurrah!"

The soldiers erupted into wild cheers all together.

The sky showed the wonders of nature four times for the Supreme Commander.

It was not accidental at all.

"Our respected Supreme Commander is the great man recognized by the sky!"

"The sky recognized our heaven-born respected Supreme Commander and issues orders to do this or that to please him.", said the soldiers, looking up at the Supreme Commander smiling as brightly as the sun.

Their faces were pervaded with the honor and happiness of having the greatest man in the world.

That is how the legend on "Four orders from the sky" came into being.

-The sun called back

On November 23, 1996 seamen at an island post were waiting for the Supreme Commander.

As if reflecting the excitement of the seamen looking forward to seeing their benevolent father, a flag of Supreme Commander bearing a Marshal star, navy flag and fleet flag were fluttering in the sea wind. But the hearts of the seamen were heavy with an anxiety.

It was because of the dark sky and sleet in the bad weather.

The soldiers wished they had been aircraft and flown to the sky to do away with all the dark clouds and unfold a clear and blue sky warm sunshine before the Supreme Commander.

In spite of their wish, snow was falling on and on.

At last the honorable moment approached.

The car carrying the Supreme Commander slowed down and stopped in front of the enthusiastically cheering seamen.

Smiling brightly, the Supreme Commander got out of the car.

At the moment a miraculous scene was unfolded before the seamen.

All of a sudden sleet stopped pouring, the dark clouds in the sky above the naval port were splitted and a red sun appeared, shedding bright rays.

Warm sunshine overflowed the naval port.

It was too mysterious to call a simple wonder of nature. Just in such a mystery the seamen had the honor of posing for a photograph together with the Supreme Commander.

They were beside themselves with happiness.

With the tears of emotion they said as one man: "The respected Supreme Commander called back the sun for us by controlling nature!"

— **Answer hard line with harder line**

Entering 1998, the US imperialists were hell bent on scheming to provoke a war to stifle the DPRK.

Visiting south Korea, the former US President Clinton finally checked the alert posture of US army units and the preparations for sortie of US flying corps.

Then he made belligerent remarks:

"The United States is ready and able to do anything to defend its people and allied countries."

Synchronizing with it, the US conservative hardliners stated that they would cancel the DPRK-US agreed framework signed in October 1994 and take a resolute countermeasure. Just before it the DPRK had successfully launched its first artificial earth satellite "Kwangmyong-song No.l" with its own science and technology.

The US bellicose forces released a report that they completed a new war plan to attack north Korea and overtly made public the second Korean war plan "Operation plan 5027" through a publication of a third country.

Thus, the DPRK-US relations were extremely strained, laying peace and security of the Korean peninsula on the edge of a precipice and bringing war danger to reality.

The attention of the world was focused on the touch and go situation of Korea.

In such a situation Leader **Kim Jong Il** summoned a senior official of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army in November 1998 and asked him what was the real purpose of the United States to open the "Operation plan 5027" to the public.

Hearing him out, Leader **Kim Jong Il** said:

"The US imperialists seem to open a war program to the public with a view to discourage us, if the enemies plan

to stifle our Republic militarily, it is nothing but a foolish intention, the People's Army should make public a statement to expose the aggressive character of the enemies"

"Operation plan 5027" and thus harshly beat the US imperialists who are mad for war."

Examining a draft statement of the People's Army, Leader **Kim Jong Il** gave an instruction to further complete it and make public it not in the name of a spokesman of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces, but of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army and thus increase its influence.

At last, a statement of a spokesman of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army was made public under the guidance of Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il**.

Its title was "Our revolutionary armed forces would respond to the challenge of the US imperialist aggression army with merciless annihilating strike."

The statement revealed the contents of the "Operation plan 5027" which had already been put into full-scale practice and its aggressive character and declared as follows:

"It is a disposition of our revolutionary army and its unique way of response to fight fire with fire. The US imperialists are trying to discourage somebody by circulating a reckless operation program, but it is a wild

dream.

We have our own operation plan.

The 'surgical operation-type strike' or the 'preemptive strike' are not a choice only of the United States and no any striking method is the monopoly of the United States.

They should know that the strike capability of the People's Army is unlimited and there would be no escape on this planet from such a strike.

In a war theatre where fire is exchanged our strike will target not only the US aggression army who leads the 'Operation plan 5027', but the south Korean puppets who are going to present themselves as the cannon fodder of the US army and Japan and other countries which provide bases or render service to the US army. All of them should keep it in mind.

The aggressors are doomed to be forlorn wandering spirits".

The world admired Korea.

Mass media of China, Russia, the United States, Japan, Cuba, Indonesia, Syria, Ethiopia, Guinea and many other countries gave wide publicity to the statement under the titles "The Korean People's Army is fully ready to cope with the aggressive maneuvers of the US imperialists", " Japan is also a target of strike, the north Korean People's Army warned",

"The north Korean military warned the United States of

an annihilating strike".

Political parties of Peru in a joint statement stressed that "It is a way of response of General **Kim Jong Il**, the ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander to fight fire with fire, we fully support the fighting spirit of the Korean People's Army."

In mid-December that year the United States in collusion with Britain bombarded Iraq.

They might have wanted to give vent to their anger at the bombshell statement of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army.

In October 2000 the then US Secretary of State Albright visited the DPRK in company with over 200 senior officials of the State Department.

That day Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** met Albright and her suite and in the evening accompanied her to see a mass gymnastic display and art performance to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The next day he met Albright again for conversation and attended a dinner party given by her.

Being together with her for over 14 hours, he gave clear-cut answers to DPRK-US relations, international issues, missile and other problems with his foresighted penetration and superb wisdom.

Albright was completely overpowered by Supreme

Commander **Kim Jong Il**.

Commenting on it, a senior member of the delegation said "Albright was fascinated by Chairman **Kim Jong Il** completely."

Back home, Albright submitted a report to the President in which she said:

"Staying in north Korea, I had talks with the north Korean leader for a long time.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** is utterly different from such a type of person as we have imagined so far.

He is possessed of perfectly systematic and logical theory and sees through the current complicated international problems and gives correct analysis and judgment of them.

He deals with all problems daringly and clearly.

He listens to his talking companion very seriously and to the end with magnanimity. And so talking with him is quite interesting and in the course of talk I was drawn into his theory and assertion deeply.

In overall, I could not but acknowledge that the north Korean Leader is a man of varied powers.

He has clear theories and firm conviction on political, economic, military, foreign and all other problems and a bold and prudent attitude towards them".

-There will be no globe without Korea.

Such is the pluck of Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

It is natural for the Secretary of State of a superpower to lower her head before him.

▲ Only for the country and revolution and for the army and the people

¯ His day

It was the day after Leader **Kim Jong Il** inspected a People's Army unit at the forefront of the west coast.

He had traveled 400 kilometer long rugged path for on-site guidance.

That day too however, he stayed up all night before a map of operation to consolidate the defence line of the forefront impregnably.

He was extremely fatigued.

From the early morning of the first day of 1997 too, as in 1996, he gave on-site guidance to many units for over two months without any recreation.

He had to rest even for a few hours.

But Leader **Kim Jong Il** started for on-site guidance again as soon as the day broke.

On arriving at the spot, he saw combat equipment of the unit and acquainted himself with the power and principle of action of arms.

Saying that one can know the power of arms only when he saw their firing, he climbed up the mountain and saw

soldiers' target practice. Then he gave precious teachings which would be served as highly important guidelines in strengthening the combat efficiency of the unit.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** made for the hall where animal and plant specimens were exhibited.

The hundreds of specimens of rare animals and plants were associated with the People's Army soldiers' noble love for the country and the people.

Speaking highly of the soldiers' conduct, **Kim Jong Il** remarked:

"Our soldiers did a very good job. This kind of thing can be made only by a genuine People's Army who loves the country and the people sincerely."

Saying that he would see all of them even it would take time, he saw the stuffed animals and plant specimens one by one and explained the ecological features of the rare animals to the accompanying officials.

Much time passed and lunch time was near.

But he got on his car again saying:

"However busy we are, we should see the art works our soldiers created."

At the museum of the revolutionary activities of President **Kim Il Sung** under the Ministry of People's Armed Forces there were displayed many works of art produced by soldiers of the People's Army with loyalty.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** saw Korean paintings, oil

paintings, Jewel paintings, sculptures, embroiders, craft works and other works of art without exception.

Expressing a great satisfaction, he said:

"The soldiers of our People's Army are not only a-match-for-a-hundred soldiers firmly prepared politically and ideologically and in military technique, but all-round soldiers who are possessed of high cultural and artistic attainments as well.

Our revolution is ever-victorious thanks to such unrivalled ranks."

The eyes of Leader **Kim Jong Il** were glittering with confidence in victory and his whole body was overflowing with vigor.

Having traveled a long way and stayed up all night in the previous day he was very tired, but he saw hundreds of zoological and botanical specimens and works of art and passionately gave instructions pertaining to ideological work in the army.

Meanwhile, lunchtime passed.

It was really regrettable.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** was the priceless person with the destinies of the country, the people and socialism and the future of humankind on his shoulder.

As a man, Supreme Commander should also sleep at night and take a meal at the right time.

But Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** put off his

lunch time and continued his on-the-spot guidance at a far-off unit of the People's Army.

On arriving at the unit, he acquainted himself with the work of the unit without a moment's rest.

Night advanced, but his inspection of the unit continued till midnight.

Like this, Leader **Kim Jong Il** was on his on-site guidance tour all day long for the consolidation of the People's Army.

― Seeing chinks of needlework

The following happened when Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited height 351 in the eastern sector of the front in the fierce wind. He met two soldiers at an observation post. He asked them about their home towns, ages and health and acquainted himself with their arms in detail.

After a while he turned his eyes upon their padded clothes.

The clothes were stuffed with cotton and quilted so thick as to keep off the severe cold on the height.

He felt the breast of the padded clothes to guess the thickness of the clothes and looked concerned, saying:

"The winter clothes of the soldiers are low in quality now".

He pressed the seams of the clothes and said:

"The wadded clothes are thin."

The soldiers had thought the padded clothes thick, but

he was dissatisfied.

At this the commanding officers felt a lump in their throats.

Feeling the sleeves of the clothes of the two soldiers again, Leader **Kim Jong Il** reproached officials sternly, saying:

"Cotton was put into the winter clothes little and so the soldiers feel cold in thin clothes. They seem to need to take on winter underclothes beneath wadded clothes and overcoats above them".

Looking at the conscience-stricken officials, he went on to say that the padded clothes of the People's Army began to be thin after a certain official took charge of the supply service and watched closely the stitches of the clothes. Then he fixed his eyes on a spot of the clothes. After a while he said in a concerned voice that wind would penetrate through the chinks of needlework of the padded clothes. He also gave an instruction to make the winter clothes a little thicker and better so that the soldiers may not feel cold.

Then he bent his back and pressed the toes of the wadded footwear of the two soldiers and stressed the need to put cotton in the wadded footwear thick so that the soldiers may not feel the cold on their feet. He added:

"The members of the headquarters should fulfill their responsibility and role as they are charged with the

livelihood of soldiers." He went on to say:

"The problem lies in feeding the soldiers well and dressing them warm. You are in good overcoats and so do not know the cold, but the soldiers are not so. Soldiers are not for officers, but officers are for soldiers.

Commanding officers should be for soldiers."

The remarks of Leader **Kim Jong Il** led the commander into deep thought.

¯Do not like to be given hospitality

The following happened during Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s on-the-spot guidance at posts and units on the east coast. That day a lunch was arranged for him on an island post.

At last it was lunch time.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** let the boat anchor at a small rocky islet on the way to the post and suggested taking lunch beneath a cliff.

Surprised at his unexpected order, the officials looked at each other. They tried to guide him to the post.

After a while he knew what the matter was and said:

"We need not to do so. Let us satisfy our hunger with what we have brought with us.

Please, unwrap the luncheon basket".

He relieved his hunger with a few pieces of bread and then told the officials a moving story on the noble popular traits shown by President **Kim Il Sung** and taught what they

should to work and live in a modest manner.

He went on to say:

"Today you are said to have prepared a special lunch for me.

We should not take off even a little from the soldiers' food instead of supplementing anything to their living.

That's why I was opposed to your intention to bring lunch.

When some officials of the People's Army go down to the lower unit for guidance, they like to telephone in advance to call a car to a railway station.

And staying at the unit, they like to be treated hospitably. If treated well, they overlook the unit's shortcomings, but if treated not well, they find fault with it and criticize it. Even when they return home, some officials are pleased only when the inferior officials put something supplied to soldiers into their bags.

Such officials are not qualified to carry stars on their shoulders."

His was really a stern criticism.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** told the conscience-stricken officials not to be given hospitality at a lower unit and stressed:

That is just the bureaucratic way of work. It is the main factor that damages your working authority and makes others speak ill of you behind your back.

Don't like to be given hospitality!

What a significant words

—Rice ball

On March 20, 1996 Leader **Kim Jong Il** shared field meal with commanding officers of an army unit at the forefront.

Sitting at a simple wooden table made by soldiers, he indicated at rice balls on the table and said he had failed to prepare for anything special because he had to leave unexpectedly and told them to help themselves to the rice balls.

They were sorry they couldn't cordially entertain the Supreme Commander who braved a long and rugged road, instead, they were served the food brought by him.

They were choked with excitement.

They were all the more moved to see the same rice balls with theirs laid before him.

They were sorry at the thought that when they were eating hot rice and soup, the Supreme Commander had taken such cold rice balls on his long way to the forefront.

Hardly repressing surging emotion, they took up chopsticks with trembling hand.

Finding them to try to eat rice balls with chopsticks, he said:

"Rice balls should be eaten with hand like this". He

even motioned them with his hand. The commanding officers were moved once again.

-The size of window of barracks belittled

It was on December 31, 1996.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** visited an artillery unit to see the latest arms and equipment and the training of soldiers.

That day he showed fatherly affection to the living of soldiers.

After looking round the education room and seeing the photographs of soldiers on the billboard for the honors with deep attention Leader **Kim Jong Il** entered a barracks.

At the moment he guessed the temperature of the barracks.

It was warm in the barracks.

The temperature was warm enough for soldiers not to feel cold in mid-winter.

The commander of the unit told him that since the windows were reduced as the Supreme Commander had taught the temperature of the barracks increased by 3 or 4 degrees. Saying with great satisfaction that 3 or 4 degrees rise is significant, Leader **Kim Jong Il** turned his eyes to the windows of the barracks.

The reduced windows of the barracks were associated with an exciting story.

Giving on-side guidance to the women's coastal battery,

Leader **Kim Jong Il** was deeply concerned about the temperature in barracks of women soldiers.

Saying that as the soldiers do their duty while making combat training at the positions, they should be ensured to sleep and rest in warm barracks.

Trying to find its method, he looked at the window and said:

"If the barracks are to be warm, the windows should be made smaller.

In the future we should study the window design of the barracks.

Now barracks has many windows and they are large. That is unnecessary.

Making windows like that is an old style in construction."

The accompanying officials and the commanding officers were lost in deep thought.

Every winter they paid attention to warming up barracks, mainly to providing fire woods and protecting against wind, but nobody thought of the size of window.

Nor did anybody think of making the barracks warmer by belittling the size of window.

Such a thought could be done only by the parents who were always concerned about their children felt cold.

The commanding officers could not but be excited.

Turning to them, Leader **Kim Jong Il** added that the

heat of the room is lost because the size of window is large and its number is many.

He went on: "It would be good to belittle the window of barracks like a vent under the eaves at the main combat unit."

Afterwards, the windows of the barracks of the People's Army were reduced.

— **Triplet soldiers honored**

It was on November 21, 1996. Leader **Kim Jong Il** heard with a great pleasure the report that 22 triplet soldiers were attending the third meeting of young officers of the Korean People's Army

Though busy, he made time to see them and came out at the April 25 House of Culture, the venue of the meeting.

The moment they saw the Supreme Commander whom they had yearned for even in a dream the triplet soldiers ran towards him, shouting "Hurrah".

Leader **Kim Jong Il** approached them, saying:

"You are our triplets! Now let me see your faces..."

He kindly looked round at the cheering triplet soldiers, asking them to stop cheering and said: "I have come not to be given an ovation, but to see you." The triplet soldiers standing in a line by threes looked very reliable.

It seemed yesterday that they were born at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, but they grew into soldiers

in military uniform.

Being more satisfied and attracted, he smiled brightly all the time.

Looking closely at every triplet serving at the ground, naval and air forces of the Korean People's Army, he said with joy that all of them looked healthy and clever as one. He went on: "Our Leader in his lifetime had treasured them so much and brought up with great affection."

At this, the triplets soldiers could not keep tears, earnestly longing for the father leader and remembering his love and solicitude for them.

Some of the 22 triplets soldiers were born after being brought to the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital by a plane sent by Leader **Kim Jong Il** and some others were born again in a resuscitator provided by him.

He sent every triplet an ornamental silver knife or gold ring engraved with his or her name and provided foods and clothes for them to use till they grew up.

Now they grew up into reliable soldiers and appeared before him.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** could not repress joy and pleasure.

"Now look, how reliable our triplets!

They have grown up into a-match-for-a-hundred soldiers.

They were born in the era of the Workers' Party and have grown only in happiness.

Today they took arms in their hands and stand at the post to defend the party, the country and the socialist system. They are really praiseworthy. This fact alone shows how strong our People's Army is."

Listening to his words overflowing with great love and trust, the triplets soldiers were filled with intense loyalty.

He met all the triplets one by one and said they were exactly alike, asking what they were doing at what unit, whether it was not difficult for them to serve in the army, how their parents were getting along and then posed for a photograph together with them.

Now it was the time for Leader **Kim Jong Il** to leave.

The triplets were reluctant to part with him, clinging to his sleeves.

At this he could not say good-by to them.

He said:

"I'd like to give my gifts to them in memory of our meeting.

Even if it takes time, I will give the gifts with my own hands."

Then he called the 22 triplets one by one and gave a gold watch to everyone, watching them again and hugging them with affection.

Looking at the soldiers wrapped in infinite happiness and honor, he told officials to take a good care of them and train them into admirable soldiers.

He hoped the triplets would be healthy and successful in military service and encouraged them time and again.

_A ball kicked by the People's Army first

On August 27, 1998 Leader **Kim Jong Il** met commanding officers of the People's Army and said he would send some 100,000 basket balls to the People's Army for distributing them to schools across the country.

The commanding officers wondered why he let the People's Army distribute the balls instead of directly sending them to schools as his gifts.

Then he gave an instruction that the company political officers, and other political workers of units and subunits should go out to the schools in their stationed areas and convey the basket balls with political significance and thus make it a good occasion to conduct the "our school-our post" movement more vigorously and strengthen army-people relations.

The basket ball was of great significance.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** suggested conveying 100,000 basketballs, anticipating a great role of it in further developing the kinship relations between the army and the people. This event further strengthened the comradely unity and kinship between them.

In September 1998 Leader **Kim Jong Il** was informed of the successful convey of basket balls and said:

"This year the People's Army kicked the ball of army-people relations first and now the ball is in society. It is society's turn now."

The ball kicked by the People's Army first!

It meant that the People's Army should show sincerity to the people first.

Just that's why it is not people-army relations, but army-people relations.

¯A telephone call at dawn

While giving on-site guidance to Jagang province on August 31, 2000, Leader **Kim Jong Il** called up a senior official of the provincial party committee at dawn. As if making an apology for having wakened the official from sleep, he said in a concerned voice: "You are old and that yesterday looked round many places and discussed many problems with me till late night. So you must be very tired.

After letting you go to bed I dealt with unsettled problems and took a nap for about half an hour past 4 o'clock at dawn". A lump surged up in the throat of the official. He was sorry to hear that Leader **Kim Jong Il** had sat up all night again.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** went on to say: "In Jagang province air is good and, maybe so, even after dozing for a while I feel refreshed and reinvigorated.

You need not concern yourself that I do not sleep

properly. I sleep so soundly that 30 minutes are equal to 10 hours.

Traveling in the car too, I can take a nap and so you need not be concerned about me."

He added:

"You must know my mind better than anybody else. Giving on-site guidance to many places for two days, I met many people. Everybody thought more of me than himself.

I must do more work for such good people.

It is sorry that time is not enough."

After a solemn silence he said in a harsh voice:

"Thinking of the life of the Leader who devoted his all to the people, I can not sleep.

If we are to provide a happy life to the people as soon as possible, we should work harder and harder even if we do not sleep properly and suffer more hardships.

Today too, we should look round many places.

As we have not enough time, we are to leave at half past five. So you'd better not wake old officials.

As for breakfast, we would carry rice balls in the car and take them at good opportunity.

Make ready for start soon."

Like this, the road of Leader **Kim Jong Il**'s Songun-based revolutionary leadership is embroidered with an epic of his warm love, trust, devotion and obligation and the day in Korea dawns and closes under his intense devotion for the

country and the people.

—A **field operation style life of the great man**

While talking with officials on August 23, 2001, Leader **Kim Jong Il** said among others: "Visiting Russia recently, I spent very busy days in a field operation style life. Originally, I take breakfast only a little, a bowl of porridge and a cup of juice of pickled vegetable are enough for me.

The officials who accompanied me this time requested me to take more meals.

But I can't do so.

I used to take a light meal because I suffered a lot of difficulties in my childhood and, getting older, I worked saving every bit of time from early morning. Pressed by work, I had to skip a meal or stopped halfway often.

Even now I have not enough time to take a meal quietly. Now it is a habit with me to skip a meal or stop halfway.

In my on-the-spot guidance tour I try to eat slowly for those who share meals with me, but I can't do so.

You tell me not to skip a meal or stop halfway however busy, but I can't break off the habit of taking a light meal and sleeping on a hard bed.

Lying on a soft bed, I have a pain in the waist and scarcely fall asleep. Field operation style is the best to me. I am fully habituated to a field operation style life."

Such a person is Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

6. Fruit of Songun

Prosperous is a country which is strong in military power and national power.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea upheld arms and further consolidated the traditional single-minded unity centered on Leader **Kim Jong Il**, thereby evidently demonstrating its feature as a politically and ideologically powerful nation.

In Korea not only the army and the people but school youth and children infinitely respect and follow their leader and regard it as an honor to lay down their lives for the purpose.

Last year I visited Pyongyang and saw celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the DPRK.

At the famous **Kim Il Sung** square in Pyongyang there was held a parade of civilian armed forces which are not inferior to regular armed forces.

I am not sure why Korea held celebration with a parade of civilian armed forces instead of regular armed forces. I can only suppose that it was saying: "This is Korea's civilian armed forces, then you would imagine the level of regular armed forces."

They were on an equal footing with the regular armed forces.

All parade members marched in a fine array, giving

cheers to the rostrum.

Their faces were all overflowing with confidence, pluck and pride.

The parade was followed by torchlight demonstration of school youth and children. It was really surprising.

The torchlight streamed like a sea of fire or the Milky Way.

They trust their leader completely and admire him absolutely.

They expressed the greatest thanks and respect to Leader **Kim Jong Il** who attaches prime importance to arms and safeguards their destiny with a treasured sword of Songun.

Korea promotes its external prestige with the Songun-based politics.

Though the hostile forces cried that Korea would collapse soon, it rose higher and keeps good company with the world, far from collapsing.

Recently Italy, Germany, Britain and other European countries which had looked down on Korea established official diplomatic relations with Pyongyang.

It proves that Korea is not a "closed" country and shows the development of its external relations.

Arms do not come from scratch.

Military power is consolidated on the basis of the thorough mental strength and powerful economy.

Korea put forward the army as the main force of

revolution in the changed circumstances of today and is building a prosperous and powerful great socialist nation by relying on the army.

It is because the cause of socialist construction is an anti-imperialist independent cause in the acute confrontation with imperialism and the army is possessed of the fighting spirit and work attitude which are worthy of model in socialist construction.

In building monumental structures such as the Anbyion youth power plant the servicemen displayed the spirit of resolutely carrying through the party's decision, self-reliance, fortitude, patriotic devotion to the country and the people, frugal traits of living and militant way of working in implementing all work on the best level at the shortest time.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** saw to it that the working people in society learn after such a spirit of the army and apply it to the socialist economic construction.

That's why the army boosted coal and power industries, farming and many other fields and built on the highest level light industry factories, chicken, duck and pig plants and fish farms for the improvement of the people's livelihood.

Over the past 10 years the DPRK has achieved many successes in the economic construction in support of the Songun-based leadership of Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

They are associated with the great services of the

soldiers of the People's Army.

Today the Korean People's Army is holding high the slogan "We undertake both socialist construction and national defence".

Referring to it, an extreme rightist of the United States in his article contributed to the newspaper "Wall Street Journal Europe" said: The militarization of Korea is expressed in different forms. One of them is the fact that specially enlisted detachments are dealing with the matters that were dealt with by civilians in the past.

Refuting the article, a professor at the South Connecticut University contributed to a US magazine an article which says: "He who has not been to Korea is not qualified to appraise Korea.

In the capacity of a man who visited and witnessed Korea, I'd like to refute his blame.

There can't be any more sinister and groundless distortion.

The north Korean people are proud of the ordinary soldiers working to help them.

They believe that it is good for soldiers to engage in useful construction in peacetime and it is good for the soldiers themselves either.

They are proud of the exploits of soldiers."

Commenting on the Songun politics with the People's Army as the main force, the VOA said:

"Now all the aspects of north Korea are characterized by a communist tough politics with Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** as the sole center of the army.

The army is not only the sole main force safeguarding the socialist political integrity of this country, but a storming party and main detachment of the Supreme Commander to overcome all economic obstacles facing north Korea."

The comment can't be said to be precise, but reflected something essential.

The working people in society learn after the fighting traits and work attitude of the People's Army and join it in life and struggle.

In fact, noteworthy successes have been achieved in the socialist economic construction.

A graphic proof of it is the nuclear test in October 2005.

When the United States and other western nations were kicking up a racket about sanctions and pressure allegedly to "solve" nuclear issue of Korea, Pyongyang succeeded in nuclear test by its own efforts and made public of it to the world.

In the following year Korea test fired several missiles with greater range.

It is known to the whole world that the day was the national day of the United States.

If it was weak in military strength and national power, what Korea would have become?

It is out of question.

Songun gave Korea confidence, pluck and courage. Over the past 130 years since its foundation to the early 20th century (1776-1906) the United States committed 114 wars, big and small, and over 8,900 armed interventions, thereby expanding its territory more than 10 times.

Between 1945 and 1985 during the cold war the United States perpetrated 262 wars and armed interventions in total including the Korean War and Vietnam War.

Around the end of cold war too, the United States committed the invasion of Panama in December 1989, the intervention of Liberia in August 1990, the Gulf War in 1991, the military intervention of Somalia in 1992, military strikes against Afghanistan and the Sudan in 1998, air raid on Yugoslavia in 1999 and the Iraqi War in March 2003 and many other aggressive wars and armed interventions.

Today the United States deployed 750 military bases in more than 130 countries of all continents of the world excepting the Antarctica and stationed 500,000 troops there constantly. The military bases in the US mainland number 6,000 or more.

The nuclear arsenal in the United States are filled with more than 20,000 nuclear weapons including over 5,400 intercontinental ballistic missile warheads, over 1,750

nuclear bombs and cruise missile warheads. The military expenditure of the United States increased from 379 billion dollars in 2003 to 401.7 billion dollars in 2004.

In 2005 the US House approved the defrayment of 491.0 billion dollars of military expenditure in the 2006 fiscal year.

At present the United States is keeping 100,000 aggressor troops in the Asia-Pacific region (37,000 in south Korea and 46,000 in Japan).

After the "September 11" incident the United States staged 60-80 war games every year, 80 % of them in the Asia-Pacific region.

At the end of 2008 foreign news media indicated 10 special events of the year.

They included the US decision on deleting Korea from the list of terror-sponsor nations.

Of course, Korea says it doesn't care whether the United States deletes the stigma or not.

But the United States started to move.

As it stands face to face with the US imperialists, the ringleader of aggression and war, Korea did what it should do, keeping Songun as its lifeline.

I think the injustice knelt down before the righteous line.

Only with strong national power can one have pluck and the right to speak.

I came to believe like this after visiting Songun-based Korea.

In hearty response to the call of Leader **Kim Jong Il** the DPRK is now realizing grand objectives to build a prosperous and powerful great nation by 2012, the centenary of President **Kim Il Sung**.

For accomplishing the grand objective the Korean army and people are achieving shining successes by displaying all their spiritual power.

In view of the historical experience and the might of Songun, I believe that the Korean people would reap splendid fruits in their efforts.

7. What is a weapon?

On March 24, 1999 the United States and NATO ignited the Balkan war and committed an indiscriminate air raid on Yugoslavia.

For the purpose the United States and NATO fired over 2,000 cruise missiles and perpetrated a total of over 25,000 air raids with more than 1,200 aircraft.

Yugoslavia was unable to strike the enemy planes dropping bombs at the height of 12,000 meters and the enemy bases 300 kilometers away.

The air raids killed over 2,000 people and wounded over 6,000 and made over 100,000 people homeless. During the period Yugoslavia suffered 100 billion US dollars' material loss.

Eventually, Yugoslavia withdrew from Kosovo and even let its President sit at the dock as a war criminal.

After the war was over Yugoslavians complained that Russia had not provided the latest air missiles and through the recent war they had keenly felt the necessity to strengthen a self-reliant national defence and they also lamented bitterly that the neighboring countries had joined hands with NATO and even Russia had not helped them contrary to their trust.

They were deeply convinced that what is the most important is that they should strengthen their own military

power and it is the only way of survival.

Let us look at the Iraqi war that is not yet closed.

In March 2003 the United States ignited the aggressive Iraqi War and occupied the country militarily.

After the Gulf War in 1991 the United States had persistently maneuvered to completely disarm Iraq.

Before the Iraqi War too, the United States had attempted to weaken Iraq and egged Iraq and Iran on to fight with each other for nearly 10 years.

After the Gulf War the United States banned export to Iraq for 10 years and committed regular air reconnaissance and military strike.

In particular, the United States let the UN Security Council adopt a resolution to send a UN arms inspection team to Iraq and search all places of Iraq including the presidential palace, a symbol of the dignity of the nation, thereby discouraging the Iraqi servicemen and people and making thorough reconnaissance in advance.

The Iraqi leadership, however, misjudged the aggressive nature of the United States and thought that the United Nations would check a war and disarmed itself on a suicide manner.

Till March 1-11, 2003 alone when a war was near at hand Iraq destroyed 55 pieces of short distance missile "Al Samud 2" and stopped its production.

When Iraq got weak to the extreme and lost the

capability of resistance completely, the United States ignited an aggressive war without the approval of the United Nations.

The Russian newspaper "Nezavisimaya Gazeta" on May 12,2003 said:

"The US military policy is characterized by taking a resolute action against a weak opponent when the probability of its success is 100 %. In fact, the Americans not only choose weak opponent, but make him weak in advance. Only then do they embark on a 'war'."

The Iraqi War in the early 21st century clearly showed that a wolf can never be changed into a sheep, that neither an international organization nor the public of the world can guarantee the sovereignty of a small nation and that laying down arms in the face of the enemy leads to self-destruction.

The bitter lessons of Yugoslavia and the tragedy of the Iraqi people showed that a war decisive of the destiny of a country and nation can not be made in reliance on any other country and only the independent military power can firmly defend the destiny of the people.

Then, what is a weapon?

Is it a means of violence as a dictionary defines?

The arrogant United States controls Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq as it likes, but does not touch the DPRK, a small country freely.

What is the reason?

Some time ago the US President gave up the persistent sanctions and pressure and signed a document on deleting the DPRK on the list of terror sponsor nations.

A report of the United States opened to the public a material that among the Pacific nations Korea is possessed of nuclear weapons.

It means that Korea has a genuine weapon.

The United States fears the weapon.

The following fact shows a truth.

In the past the opportunists in ruling parties of socialist countries clamored as if they were greatly interested in "peace" and could rescue humankind from nuclear disaster and unhesitatingly perpetrated counter-revolutionary crimes by disarming themselves in the face of imperialists.

In the 1960s Khrushchev, the then general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union proposed putting up a slogan "Let us disarm completely!" instead of a slogan "Let us arm ourselves!" and vociferated that it was the time to make tanks into tractors and guns into threshing machines.

His policy weakened the military power of the country. Gorvachov followed in his wake.

Addressing the 43rd session of the UN general assembly in December 1988, Gorvachov made public a plan to reduce 500,000 troops of the Soviet army unilaterally and

conventional arms too, drastically.

According to it, in 1989 andl990 the Soviet army removed 2 military districts out of 16 and 60 units of the air defence force, and 2 flying corps, 4 air divisions and 19 air regiments of the air force.

The navy scrapped 26 submarines and 45 surface ships, and the strategic rocket army more than 1,000 missiles and over 380 launching pads and dismantled 36 missile bases.

Nearly 300 munitions factories were converted into civilian factories.

As a result, the Soviet army which had threatened the United States by means of 5 million strong armed force and over 45,000 nuclear warheads in the past got weak and left the socialist countries in the east Europe to the tender mercy of the west and, in the long run, could not defend the Soviet Union itself.

Did the Soviet Union lack weapons?

The weapons and equipment of the Soviet Union were sophisticated war means strong enough to rival the United States. The Soviet Union, however, did not use those weapons, but disorganized itself.

The historic lesson of the former Soviet Union showed that disarmament in the face of the imperialists who are hell bent on aggression and plunder leads to surrendering the state and revolution to enemies and, however powerful any weapon may be, it is no more than a stick, if it is seized

by him who is weak in spiritual power.

Weapon of Korea is not a mere means of violence symbolic of physical strength and destructivity.

Weapon of the Korean people means military strength and national power.

With the weapon they laugh off the challenge of the US-led imperialists who allegedly control the world.

Yugoslavia and Iraq had weapon as a means of violence, but not a "weapon" they should have.

Then, what kind of weapon has Korea?

Korea has established a well-knit state management system.

The Songun idea clearly indicated that the unitary leadership system of Supreme Commander is embodied through the state management system which attaches great importance to national defence and thus clearly defined the contents of the Songun leadership system as a law.

The Great Leader **Kim Jong Il** said:

"In order to actively cope with the arbitrary machinations of the imperialists we chose the mode of Songun politics and enhanced the position of the national defence commission in the state machinery system and ensured that the army plays an important role in all spheres of the state and social activities."

The state management system attaching great importance to national defence is, in essence, the system of

organizing state machinery and commanding the state and social activities as a whole on the principle of giving priority to military affairs and submitting all things to it.

It comprises two essential meanings.

One of them is that the state machinery system attaches the greatest importance to National Defence Commission and the other is that its core and pivot is the National Defence Commission, the supreme military guidance structure and general defence management machinery.

The establishment of the system of managing the state and social activities as a whole under the unified guidance of the National Defence Commission will make it possible to clearly define the military affairs as the main issue of state politics, guarantee the unitary leadership of national defence and consolidate national power amid the nation-wide interest and efforts.

Korea has just that kind of weapon different from the other countries' weapon.

Korea had been forced to sign a treaty of national ruin by Japan in 1905. It is 100 years since then. Today it is too natural that the Korean people should be proudly demonstrating the dignity and might of the most powerful nation in the world.

Commenting on the might of Korea in a report to the US Defence Department, a military expert said:

"The army of the north has such a mighty strength that

in case the US and south Korean forces start invading the north, it would occupy Seoul and liberate the whole of south Korea at a breath."

A doctor at a research center in Washington said:

"The Korean People's Army is so strong as can not be compared with that in the 1950s. As the world people recognize, Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il** is a genius of military affairs with extraordinary military foresight, distinguished wisdom, unparalleled pluck, indomitable will and superior art of leadership of the army.

Thanks to his leadership and interest and the efforts of the Korean people, the Korean People's Army is perfectly prepared politically and ideologically and in military technique."

In the US Congress and state department there was afloat a rumor "General **Kim Jong Il** who is as good as a complex of renowned generals in history may make an expedition into America at the head of an army which is stronger than the armies of several continents put together and change the color of a world political map."

The western media commented: "The Korean People's Army is the most powerful army, an army whom the enemies fear most."

Some years ago the US military conducted a computerized mimic warfare. Its result was that if a war breaks out in Korea, 80 % of the US army in south Korea

and 40 % of the US forces in the US mainland and Japan would be destroyed in the first day of war.

Commenting on the policy of strength pursued by the hard liners in the US ruling quarters, a German general, the former deputy commander-in-chief of the NATO forces said in an article contributed to a newspaper:

"The United States or any other country can not win a war against north Korea. The reason is:

First, in north Korea General **Kim Jong Il** commands the army. Second, north Korea has an army that is trained, armed and organized so well that can enter battle immediately.

Third, north Korea has up-to-date missiles along with conventional weapons made by the people themselves.

Nobody knows military potentials of this country.

Fourth, north Korea has a tradition of guerrilla warfare.

Modern warfare has never overpowered guerrilla war methods.

Fifth, Asian people, the north Korean people in particular, have strong sense of worship for their leader.

Sixth, north Korea has rough mountains in more than 70% of its territory. Armies of noble birth can not be accustomed to such geographical conditions.

Seventh, north Korea has made preparations for war with the United States for over 40 years.

The north Koreans are accustomed to a war with the

United States."

Referring to north Korea's anti-US deterrent force, a foreign military commentator cited the defence stronghold like a hedgehog, artillery units that can make Seoul a sea of flames, missile units capable of completely destroying the whole area of south Korea, the navy equipped with anti-warship missile pointed at the US 7 fleet and long-range missile unit.

In May 1999 a world famous military commentator in his article entitled "On DPRK-US relations and the situation of the Korean peninsula" said:

"North Korea has a military strategy that if the United States attacks it with nuclear weapons, north Korea would respond with nuclear weapons.

A second Korean War means that south Korea and Japan would go to ruin and the United States too, would receive a fatal blow and go to ruin.

On the contrary, north Korea has realized underground fortification to cope with a nuclear warfare....

...North Korea is fully prepared to defend itself against nuclear attack of the United States and launch a counterstrike.

...General Secretary **Kim Jong Il** applies a superb strategy to win without fighting though he has made preparations for fighting with the United States. He is a brilliant commander rare to be seen in the world."

A similar comment can also be heard in Japan which calls only for pressure and sanctions.

A diplomatic and military expert in Japan in his article on the national defense industry said as follows:

"North Korea produces at home all things ranging from bullets, shells, bombs, mines and torpedoes to radar fighter bombers, submarines, tanks, short-, middle-and long-range missiles.

It has also independently developed antitank, antiaircraft and anti-ship missiles, fighter helicopters and almost all other weapons and equipment for national defense.

Their efficiencies and deployment are unknown to the United States."

Meanwhile, a south Korean military commentator said: "The north has a powerful weapon that can neither be seen nor be measured by any electronic device and radar network.

The military potentials of the north are tremendous, but the spiritual power of the army and the people is more powerful than nuclear bomb against the United States which pursues only the policy of strength against the north.

In this view the army-assisting traits of the north must be said to be another secret for the north Korean army to win a sure victory."

A western broadcasting said:

"North Korean society is based on the terrible strength of the perfect unity of the army and people under the guidance of Supreme Commander **Kim Jong Il**.

Only when you know it, can you know north Korea really. The west can calculate the efficiency of strategic missile, but can not calculate the strength of 'army-people unity' which has thousands of times greater efficiency."

Stressing the world historic significance of Songun politics and its might, a diplomat in Europe said:

"When I heard the word of Songun politics for the first time, I thought if Korea, a small country pursues Songun politics, it might not bring about any great change, even if it gives rise to any change, it could not influence European countries.

The Songun politics of respected His Excellency **Kim Jong Il** crushed the despotism of the United States and is shaking the whole world like a mammoth earth quake.

The earthquake center is Korea in the far east, but its amplitude is great enough to shake the end of west Europe.

This planet which has been darkened by the hegemonic moves of the United States is getting bright under the sun of Songun.

His Excellency **Kim Jong Il** is the sun of Songun in the 21st Century.

He is great with Songun, emerges victorious with

Songun and moves the world with Songun."

The Voice of America spoke highly of the might of the Songun politics of Leader **Kim Jong Il** as follows:

"Korea is the only country that would bury so many lives in the heart of the United States with Songun politics and make a breakthrough on the barrier of the United States. It is only Korea that will prosper as a powerful socialist nation with Songun politics.

Nobody can measure and fathom the immense width and bottomless depth of Songun politics of Leader **Kim Jong Il**.

It is tragedy of Washington."

The media of the hostile country could not conceal the stark truth.

In a word, Korea is possessed of both ideological and mental power of single hearted unity, a perfect "weapon" and powerful deterrent force all together.

From the beginning of this year (2009) when I wrote the part of the end of my book, Korea attracted public attention again.

In the beginning of April, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea launched a test communication satellite Kwangmyongsong 2 aboard a space rocket Unha 2 into orbit after going through international procedures of the law of nations on the Outer Space Treaty, when the Western world made much ado about the Pyongyang's ballistic missile fire.

America, Japan, south Korea and the Western world were clamorous of "acts of provocation of north Korea" and the United Nations Security Council published the presidential statement to debase the dignity and the sovereignty of Korea.

There are many countries in the world that launched satellites.

Among them, member nations of the United Nations Security Council take the lead in launching a satellite.

It is odd for me that no voices of fear rang out from international society whenever they launched satellites and their launches were not brought up for discussion in any international organization.

Perhaps they would have launched their satellites not aboard a space rocket but an 85-caliber mortar so they are insisting that Korea should have launched a satellite aboard small arms....

Korea cherishes an independent dignity more than life.

Korea carried out the second nuclear test successfully in order to cope with unreasonable and unfair proceedings of America and the UNSC that danced to the tune of US high-handedness.

At that time, America and its satellite forces made fuss about the DPRK's nuclear test.

Korea lodged a scathing protest against the UNSC for not having brought up for discussion nuclear tests numbering

2,054 up to now, among them 99.9 percent done by them, but having brought up for discussion the self-defense measures of Korea, aiming at defending the overriding state interests from a increasing threat of aggression of the US and the hostile forces.

And Korea rejected fully the resolution adopted by the UNSC in a bid to apply sanctions against the DPRK and gravely declared that she will accept as a declaration of war. Now the World is in troubles over a question of Korea.

But the issue of the battle of it will be clear.

Korea loves peace.

Leader **Kim Jong Il** safeguards the peace with arms.

The World must have a correct understanding that this regional peace is guaranteed by self-defense measures of Korea.

Songun is a weapon of Korea, I want to shout it loudly.

* * *